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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 3RD, 2016



Police are set to investigate letters supplied to boost Sully development

PLANS for housing and sports facilities at a key site in Sully may be in disarray – after doubts were cast on the authenticity of supportive letters – and the Vale Council referred the matter to the police.

A member of the public had complained

by TIM CHAPMAN

planning committee.

On Monday of this week, the Vale Council Leader, Neil Moore, told The GEM: "During the consideration of the application, the council received a complaint from a member of the public regarding a potentially fraudulent letter submitted in support of the application.

"As a consequence, and as a result of the council taking the matter very seriously, an internal investigation was launched. Details of the manner of that investigation, and the findings of it, are outlined in the planning committee report, for the benefit of members and

to be totally transparent. "As a result of the findings, the matter has also been brought to the attention of the police. The matter is now in their hands, and as a consequence the council cannot advise any further over and above what is outlined in the planning committee papers.

"It is reiterated that the council took the complaint and the integrity of the planning system seriously and it is for this reason that the matter was investigated and subsequently brought to the attention of the police."

A hybrid application by Sulby Sports & Social Club and property developers St Modwen envisages 200 houses, a new clubhouse, and new sport facilities on the site. (Planning officers have recommended that the planning committee refuses the application).



ABOVE: This was the moving scene when the funeral cortège for popular chairman of Barry RFC, Gary Haigh, arrived at The Cardiff and Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium. There was an 'honour guard' and applause from family and friends, who will sadly miss him.

IMAGE by JUDITH DUTTON

MAN DIES AT BARRY RAVE

A man died at an illegal rave in Barry on Sunday, October 30.

An estimated 2,000 people attended the rave, held in a building off Hayes Road.

The 'rave scene' has had a renaissance in recent years, but is a nightmare for the authorities because word is often spread through social media at the last moment and people's safety can be endangered either by an unsuitable venue or the use of drugs.

Superintendent Martin Jones, said: "South Wales Police were called shortly after midnight on Sunday to reports of an illegal rave taking place at a disused warehouse off Hayes Road involving an estimated 2,000 people.

"Officers attended the location and, in conjunction with partner agencies, including the fire and ambulance services, monitored the situation through the night.

"Illegal raves are a problem nationally, and those involved in organising them go to great lengths to

prevent the authorities from finding out about them.

"On this occasion, there was no national intelligence that an event was due to take place, and our priority once it was detected was to safeguard those in attendance, as well as minimise the disruption to the local community.

"We will now be working with our partner organisations to try and prevent this happening in future.

"We'd like to remind those attending illegal raves that officers do have the powers, under Section 63 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, to close down such events, seize equipment and make arrests."

Police say they are currently investigating the death of a 45-year-old man, who had travelled from England to attend the event. The death is not being treated as suspicious.

Two people were also arrested on Sunday morning on suspicion of drugs offences.

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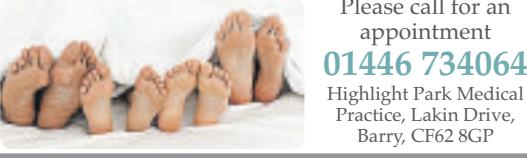


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'TIME TO STAND UP FOR THE AIRPORT'

IS it not time for our local representatives to do a great deal more to ensure that Cardiff Airport is given the tools to offer a greater range of destinations to the people of Wales?

Following the years of neglect in private ownership, at last it seems that the airport has started to turn the corner. More people are using the airport, with extra flights being offered.

However, it seems that the UK Government is determined to hold back the expansion of services from Cardiff.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be able to make their airports more attractive by varying the Airport Passenger Duty. Parliament though has refused to give Wales the same powers.

You would expect that the local MP would be fighting furiously to ensure that Cardiff Airport has the same advantage, but this is far from the case. Alun Cairns MP, Secretary of State for Wales, has actually blocked any change to the system.

He has spoken against and voted against

Cardiff being given a chance to develop and attract more custom.

He is hitting local passengers and also business people who wish to use Cardiff, but are put off due to the price and lack of convenient flights.

It seems only Plaid Cymru is backing demands to devolve Airport Passenger Duty to Wales.

**Chris Franks,
Dinas Powys
(Plaid Cymru
councillor).**

• The GEM asked the Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns MP, to comment.

He said: "I have a very positive working relationship with the airport leadership team, who are working hard to improve services and facilities."

"Passenger numbers rose by 28 per cent last year, which is a testament to their determination to see the airport succeed."

"If APD were devolved, there is no guarantee that the Labour Welsh Government would not increase the tax."

"Labour's record on tax suggests that devolving APD could be a big risk for the airport and for passengers."

'SullyGate scandal'

IAM alarmed that around 20 per cent of a sample of the letters written in support of the proposed development at Sully Sports and Social may be fakes.

The police must be informed and the chair of planning, and secretary of the club, Coun Fred Johnson, should call for an independent inquiry and

for the matter to be investigated.

The application for 200 homes at the Sully sports site is due to go before the planning committee on November 3, but must be pulled pending an investigation into this affair.

It could impact on both the planning process and the whole council.

**Coun Richard Bertin,
Independent Vale Council**

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Council plans to provide forum for local planning discussion

CHANGES to the proposed Local Development Plan (LDP) for the Vale of Glamorgan have recently been published for consultation by the Vale Council (www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp).

For Cowbridge, an additional 105 houses are now proposed from the number provided in the original draft LDP (85 at Darren Farm and 20 in Aberthin), giving a total allocation of 645 properties to be built in the Cowbridge area for the period up to 2026.

The town council, as an

advisory body and statutory consultee in planning matters, has always supported in principle some development within the town. However, it has long objected to the scale of the proposed development contained in the draft LDP and will continue to do so.

The council is particularly concerned about the inevitable implications on the infrastructure and impact on daily life and operation of the town.

For example, such a scale of new housing will generate at least 750 new resident vehicles travelling in and out of the town and some 1,000 additional pupils for the local schools. The requirement for new car parking will be impossible to provide and

the impact on town centre congestion will be a major challenge, with future trading viability adversely affected.

The town council wishes to focus on community involvement and participation to help meet these inevitable challenges.

The council is aiming to promote a visible forum via regular GEM articles, updates on its website (www.cowbridge-tc.gov.uk) as well as planning surgeries and meetings to help ensure maximum community awareness and involvement takes place in these challenging times.

**David B Morris, Town Clerk
(on behalf of the Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council).**

TRAFFIC BLIGHTS WENVOE

It totally agree with Coun Mahoney's recent comments regarding a traffic crisis in the Vale.

Before planning permission for new houses is given, it should be a requirement that the infrastructure, including roads, is sufficient to accommodate the increase in traffic.

Culverhouse Cross was already congested and it is evident that the ongoing road "improvements" will not cope.

Motorists are trying to avoid the congestion by driving through our village of Wenvoe, causing an increased hazard.

The proliferation of bus and cycle lanes adds to the problem. It is frustrating being in a non-moving line of traffic, alongside an empty bus lane.

Buses are infrequent and often empty, particularly the much-vaunted Airport bus, the T9 (called the MT9 by locals).

A fleet of minibuses would better serve the Airport and the

general public.

If I am waiting at the Wenvoe bus stop to go into Cardiff, the T9, although empty, will not allow me to get on at the designated bus stop – it is not allowed!

So, a 30-minute wait for a 96; discount the X91, as that service has been reduced.

Please, THINK about the outcome before the building of yet more houses is permitted.

**Sybil Green,
Wenvoe.**

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
03 Thur	10.22	10.1	22.48	9.9
04 Fri	11.08	9.5	23.37	9.3
05 Sat	11.57	8.8		
06 Sun	00.29	8.5	12.58	8.2
07 Mon	01.31	8.0	14.19	7.9
08 Tues	03.03	7.9	15.48	8.1
09 Wed	04.27	8.2	16.58	8.4
10 Thur	05.25	8.5	17.49	8.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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COUNCILLOR 'BARKING UP WRONG TREE'

REFER to The GEM, October 27 and the nonsense expressed by Coun Adam Riley.

We all pay our taxes and all are perfectly entitled to use parks and open spaces without interference.

As a dog owner, I am always alert to dog mess and clear up. I accept that children's play areas need to be fenced and dogs excluded.

However, I would draw the line at any attempt to exclude my dog from open playing fields paid for from my local taxes.

Might I suggest that dog owners come together, express their views and ensure that this person is never re-elected to the council?

**Trevor Honycurch,
Llantwit Major.**

An 'ignorant few' sully name of dog owners

IMAGINE, that like most dog owners in the area, I feel the complaints and discrimination against us are reaching a new high.

If these 'dog haters' have their way, there will soon be nowhere we can walk or exercise our dogs.

Most parks have a cafe and most of the customers who use these cafes are dog walkers. So how long will these cafes be in business if dogs are banned?

In The GEM on October 27, there were two articles regarding dogs.

One from the Police and Fire Service asked dog walkers to be "the eyes, ears and paws of the community"; PAWS on Patrol.

Helping to pinpoint suspicious behaviour regarding fly tipping, fire setting and any other criminal activity they may see when out and

about in our parks and fields.

This is hardly viable if dogs are banned from these places!

Also there was an article regarding The Dogs Trust who have taken their manifesto to the Senedd and are hoping to educate people on improving animal welfare, and the importance of responsible animal ownership.

Again, it's not worth the effort if dogs are no longer welcome in our community.

For some, a dog is the only friend they have and walking a dog the only chance they have of meeting like-minded people.

Everyone should pick up after their dogs and keep them under control.

It is the mindless, inconsiderate, ignorant few who fail to do so, who are causing this growing prejudice against dogs and their owners.

(Name and address supplied).

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Ding dong over 'Eye' trademark

A BARRY Island campaigner says a decision by Merlin Entertainments Group, which owns the famous attraction the London Eye, to inform the Danter family that they are infringing a trademark if the Island Pleasure Park sells its own giant wheel 'The Barry Eye', is 'childish nonsense'.

Merlin Entertainments told The GEM the company had come to an amicable agreement with Mr Henry Danter not to use the trademark.

In fact, it was local people who coined the term – which seemed apt as it resembled the bigger wheel in London.

BARRY V Evans of the Barry First

'Barry's Eye' does not belong to Merlin

THE owners of Barry Island's giant ferris wheel have been told they can no longer refer to the attraction as the 'Barry Eye', despite never having officially done so, because the Merlin group own 'The Eye' and 'London Eye' trademarks.

It is ludicrous that Merlin or anyone else for that matter can try to claim sole rights to the word 'Eye' this way.

I hope the Merlin Group will reconsider this heavy-handed approach to the Danter family and cease such actions over a rather stretched assumption that anything branded 'Eye' will inevitably link back to them.

Actions like this will be putting a lot of the locals off the attractions Merlin provides. They should really think about what exactly they are trying to achieve with this, because so far

MUGA plan for Gladstone Gardens

FOLLOWING a public consultation earlier this year, the Vale Council will be carrying out renovation work in Barry's Gladstone Gardens over the coming months.

A spokesman said that the consultation process began back in March, with an online survey.

The survey coincided with 'focus groups' in Golau Caredig sheltered housing and local schools, as well as drop-in sessions for local residents.

As a result, a list of prioritised improvements the public would like to see was drawn up.

Group said: "The news that lawyers are preventing the use of the title 'The Barry Eye' to describe the Danter family's Barry Island Ferris Wheel attraction is totally beyond belief."

"How can they claim legal rights to a title of an established town and part of the human anatomy?"

"We are sadly living in a world of litigation and with the slightest hint of a possible compensation claim these legal idiots spring into action."

Mr Evans hoped the name could remain, but understood if the Danters decided to have a rethink.

"In my view the Danters should ignore the threat of legal action, however if push

comes to shove there is no apparent reason why they could not rename the attraction 'The Barry Vision' or even 'The Barry Vista'."

"It is so sad that these people seem to want to spend time and money on defending a situation that does not even warrant a second thought. The situation is childish nonsense."

A Merlin Entertainments spokesperson told The GEM: "While it's pleasing The Eye trademark has such broad appeal, we wouldn't want to confuse people and therefore came to an amicable agreement with Mr Danter not to promote it as such. We wish him and his venture every success." (See also, letter below left).



The Cross Common Road bridge has required additional support since 2005.

New Dinas junction as old bridge goes

THE Vale Council is to begin work on a new traffic route through Dinas Powys this week that will lead to Cross Common Road bridge being removed.

The old bridge structure has been given additional support since 2005 by a timber frame and it has slowly been deteriorating.

Rather than replace wooden supports, the council has decided to dismantle the bridge and create a new junction between Cross Common Road and Cardiff Road around 50 metres downstream.

The river course runs away from the road at this point, meaning it is not necessary to create another crossing.

Once work on the new junction is completed, the bridge will be closed.

The supports will then be removed followed by the bridge deck, with that work set to take place next year.

Creating the new junction will cost around £500,000 and it is expected to take around 16 weeks to complete.

As well as eliminating any perceived flood risk, the new junction will be wider and so safer for both motorists and pedestrians.

The council has also eliminated the need to make any improvements to the bridge structure in future, while there will be no lengthy road closures.

Coun Peter King, cabinet member for highways and transportation, said: "We know what an important issue this is for local residents and that's why we've made sure this work takes

place.

"Removing the current bridge structure should allay any fears that its timber supports are contributing to a flood risk."

"The new junction should also be safer for motorists and pedestrians than the current narrow crossing."

"There will be no road closures while the work takes place, meaning disruption to residents will be kept to a minimum."

The work has been welcomed by local Plaid Cymru councillors who have liaised with residents keen to see progress on a junction.

Coun Val Hartree said: "This seems to have been a marathon effort to put all the pieces together. First we had to convince the Vale Council that the existing bridge and junction was unsatisfactory. Key was the consultant's report that condemned the bridge."

"Then we had to ensure that the finance was in place. Strangely the finances were the least of the problems. Over £500,000 was allocated for this scheme."

Colleague Coun Keith Hatton said: "We will want local residents to be kept informed by the council of progress and any issues affecting them. There is bound to be some inconvenience."

Coun Chris Franks added: "We have suffered many hold ups and frustrations and we will keep up the pressure until the new junction is finally opened."

Lesotho campaign

THE Lesotho Lunch in Stanwell Road Baptist Church Hall, Penarth, was visited by the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Stuart Egan with his Consort, the former Mayor of Penarth, Nigel Gibbs.

The lunches continue for the next two Fridays in the church hall next to the Paget Rooms, starting at 12 noon.

Jeremy and Rosemary Dix from the Penarth and District Lesotho Trust are members of the church and have been involved in this series of fundraising events. The money raised for the starving subsistence farmers has been augmented by generous donations. The target figure of £3,000 will be reached with the continued support from the caring people of Penarth and the Vale, with the cooperation of the churches.

We need roads to and from these new homes; or quality jobs located close enough to these estates that will make the nightmare daily commute unnecessary.

On Friday, Tabernacle Baptist Church links with



members of St Joseph's Catholic Church to provide the lunches, a choice of delicious soups, cheese and bread rolls. The cost is £5 and all are welcome to join in to support our friends of the Mountain Kingdom, which is the twin country of Wales. KH

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Barry man had cannabis plants growing in attic

CANNABIS with a street value of up to £8,640, was capable of being harvested from nine plants of the drug, being grown in a house in Barry, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Richard Edwards, 32, of Hywel Crescent, had admitted producing cannabis when he appeared at Cardiff Magistrates' Court and was committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Two weeks before the offence, the court heard, he had been made subject

to an eight-month suspended sentence for possessing cannabis with intent.

Prosecutor Byron Broadstock said that on February 5, police searched Edwards' home and in the attic found nine cannabis plants growing.

"There was lighting and all the required equipment," said Mr Broadstock.

Edwards told the police the plants were his, the cannabis was for personal use and that he had started the operation three months before.

Judge David Wyn Morgan adjourned sentence for a report and he was released on bail.

'Port Road is not fit for purpose' READER

A S I sat in my car admiring the autumnal colours of the trees, while parked on Port Road during my usual horrendous journey to work the other morning, I couldn't help but think of Margaret Robinson's observations in last week's GEM.

Our local planners and 'leaders' have provided us commuters with a wonderful, but occasional cycle path for the less occasional cyclist that actually uses it, rather than the road – and an infrequent bus lane for the even less frequent buses.

It is with a sense of wonder that I eagerly await the improvements that the same designers of such commuting wonders will provide

for the tens of thousands of car drivers who suffer Port Road on both their outward and return journeys each day.

The road is quite simply no longer fit for purpose.

As more housing estates are created in and around Barry, Port Road will become ever less so. Of course, the new estate at Culverhouse Cross won't help matters, and looking at the roadworks thus far, the design looks set only to increase the commuting nightmare.

The same can be said of Port Road.

Our illustrious 'leaders' and planners should do what our taxes are paying them to do, and address the issue of poor road communications between the Vale and the rest of the world as part of any agreement to build new homes in the area.

We need roads to and from these new homes; or quality jobs located close enough to these estates that will make the nightmare daily commute unnecessary.

Ade Pitman, Barry.

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WALES AIMING TO BE 'NUMBER ONE'

ON October 25, Brian Rhys Davies spoke to Dinas Powys Probus Club on the achievements and aims of Sport Wales, where he is the director of elite performance.

Having enjoyed a life in sport at the highest level, he was appointed to his current position in 2015, having moved up from being 'chef de mission' for Team Wales at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014.

As a nation, Wales has for a long time in sport punched above its numerical weight. More Welsh professional boxers have been world champions than from any other country.

At the Glasgow games, we won statistically double the number of medals based on our team size that we could have been expected to win.

The declared ambition of Sport Wales is to be the Number One country in the Commonwealth and this can only be achieved by developing an elite sports strategy whereby: (1) the very best athletes are found, (2) they have the very best coaches, (3) they enter the highest ranking events, and (4) they have the very best back-up squad, which

includes dieticians, medical staff and psychologists.

Brian believes that a totally focused vision is the absolute priority for success.

At the 2016 Olympics at Rio, Welsh athletes made up 7 per cent of the GB team, and won 23 medals.

They competed in 11 sports, the most successful events being the cycling.

There were more women than men, something Brian wants to re-balance before the next Commonwealth Games in 2018 at Gold Coast City, Australia, which, as he constantly reminds the team, is only "75 Mondays" away, and also at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Sport Wales is aware that only the very best and most talented performers are included in the elite programme and that many only marginally less talented athletes are excluded, but this is the price that has to be paid if Wales is to compete at the highest levels in world sport.

However, there is no doubt that the medals won by the present squad motivate young athletes to raise their ambitions for future World Games.

The vote of thanks was given by Derry Moore.

CHARLES REES

Festive air at floral society

TO members of the Barry Floral Society, which meets at the St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry, November means getting ready for Christmas. On Tuesday,

November 8 (commencing at 2.15pm) members will enjoy a demonstration by Adrian Cooke of Pembroke. Then on the afternoon of Tuesday, November 22, no doubt inspired by Adrian, members will make their own decorations while enjoying chat and cake.

The club's final event of the year is a coffee morning/exhibition on Tuesday, November 29 (10.15am to 12 noon).

Each year, the club supports a local charity and a donation is made at the Christmas exhibition – ValePlus is the chosen charity for 2016. JK

OUT AND ABOUT...

Enfys Craft Fair

ENFYS Craft Fair will take place on November 5 at St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry from 10am until 4pm.

A wide choice of fabric, wooden, knitted and machined lace products; a variety of jewellery, painted cards, A4 mounted photographs, 2017 photographic calendars and of course cakes.

The charity raffle last month raised £60 for cat rescue Rozmogz.

This month, the raffle

will be held for Action Medical Research Charity which helps save and change children's lives.

AMR has been funding medical breakthroughs since 1952; one instance being the introduction of the first polio vaccine in the United Kingdom.

AMR treats sick and vulnerable babies, helps disabled children and tackles rare diseases in children.

The latest research projects for tackling rare diseases are in Newcastle to find a new treatment for Duchenne

muscular dystrophy; Oxford, to improve diagnosis for severe anaemia; Cambridge, studying a new treatment for children with germ cell tumours; London, developing implants for children born with a small ear or nose and Birmingham, to develop better treatments for children with brain cancer.

An amazing charity helping the hundreds and thousands of sick and disabled children in the UK.

Breakfast with Dinas Powys RNLI

The Dinas Powys branch of the RNLI is holding a Breakfast Roll on Saturday, November 12 at the Lee Hall, Dinas Powys between 8.30am and 11.30am, serving juice, fruit bread, croissant and a bottomless pot of tea/coffee.

Tickets £5 from committee members or on the door. There will be a raffle and RNLI Christmas cards and gifts will be on sale.

All proceeds go directly to the ongoing Penarth Lifeboat Appeal.

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MOUNT ROOMS OPENS DECEMBER 1

New lease of life for an iconic Barry landmark

The Mount Rooms – undergoing renovation work.



ONE OF Barry's landmark buildings – once known as the Mount Sorrel Hotel – is being given a new lease of life as 'The Mount Rooms'.

New owners plan to have renovated guest rooms ready within weeks.

Upgrade work at 'Upper Holton Road'

RESIDENTS are being informed that work is to commence on improving the pavements in the Upper Holton Road area of Barry.

They will be improved between Holton School and Robert Street.

The Bassett scheme comprises junction build-outs and improved paving to improve both vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Construction is to commence this week and will last for approximately 12 weeks, subject to the weather.

Councillor Richard Bertin said: "I am pleased that the Vale Council has listened to people in the area and that works are set to commence soon."

"Residents will be kept informed of plans and the council apologises for any inconvenience caused during the period of works."

Final works will include speed humps, tactile paving, improved markings and grey stone to complement existing works in the area.

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by GEM REPORTER



Progress is being made on the interior of the building and 13 guest rooms will be ready by December 1.

Emma Ballson, a director of new owners The Property Index, explained: "We will be starting with 13 guest rooms which will be open by December 1. In subsequent weeks we have a second and third cluster of rooms available."

"By next April our aim is to have 44 rooms available."

Emma said the company had done its research and believed it would serve a wide clientele including people taking flights at Cardiff Airport, tourists, business people and short break visitors to Barry and south Wales.

Some of the services at the Mount Rooms, such as the gym, beauty studio and special events, will be provided by companies on a lease basis.

Emma said: "The aim is to have the services available to guests and the public. We've already had people asking when the gym will open."

A restaurant – or cafe – is planned too.

The business community in Barry will welcome the fact that the town will have more hotel space.

At one stage it looked as if houses were going to be built on the site. The UK Holiday Group submitted a plan to demolish the building in favour of housing in 2014 when it decided the Mount Sorrel wasn't a viable business.

AM visits Dogs Trust home

SOUTH Wales West Assembly member, Caroline Jones, visited Dogs Trust Bridgend recently.

Ms Jones was given a tour of the rehoming centre and met a number of dogs currently awaiting their new homes.

Dogs Trust's campaign manager for Wales Siân Edwards was also on hand for an in-depth discussion about tackling dog welfare issues in Wales.

Siân added: "It was a great opportunity to discuss our 2016 Dog Manifesto for Wales, particularly our concerns about dog breeding practices and our preference for the Welsh Government to continue to take the lead on dog welfare by extending their ban on electronic shock collars to other aversive training devices."

Ms Jones said: "Visiting Dogs Trust Bridgend has been a fantastic opportunity for me to witness first hand the work the staff at the centre do, and meet some of the dogs being cared for. As a sponsor of two Dogs Trust dogs it was a privilege to see the wonderful efforts of staff at the rehoming centre who work so tirelessly to ensure all unwanted, abandoned and stray dogs are cared for so well."



BRACE OF AWARDS FOR BARRY SCHOOL

CHILDREN and staff at Gladstone Primary School are celebrating, after successfully renewing both the Platinum Eco Award and the National Quality Award for Healthy Schools.

The Platinum Eco Award is the highest award for 'eco' schools and for the renewal the school demonstrated how they worked with parents and the community to raise awareness and share some of their eco activities, highlighting partnerships with the whole school community.

The renewal of the National headteacher.

Quality Award demonstrates that again, Gladstone has achieved the highest standards in all seven 'Healthy Schools' aspects of health and well-being. Catherine Perry, senior health promotion specialist from the Healthy Schools scheme came into school recently to present the renewal plaque.

Gladstone first achieved these prestigious awards in 2014 and we are very proud to renew them, demonstrating a whole school commitment to healthy lifestyles, sustainable living and global citizenship," said Helen Reilly, deputy

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Keeping Up Appearances – and keeping up the laughs! **PODS performs the Roy Clarke classic to a packed Paget Rooms**



ABOVE:
The PODS cast that
performed
Keeping Up
Appearances at the
Paget Rooms,
Penarth.

LEFT: Val Mallows
as social climber
Hyacinth Bucket,
the star of the show.

WEDNESDAY, October 12 saw the opening night of Penarth Operatic and Dramatic Society's (PODS) production of Roy Clarke's *Keeping Up Appearances at the Paget Rooms*, Penarth.

The company played to a full house, and provided non-stop humour with lots of laughs for the audience to enjoy.

The cast did a sterling job of bringing to life the snooty Hyacinth Bucket pronounced 'Bouquet' and her lower class, extended family.

The part of Hyacinth was played by Val Mallows, a long standing member of PODS since 1977. She kept the audience amused with the antics of Hyacinth throughout the two hour running time.

Another performance of note was Vic Atkins playing Emmet, Hyacinth's nervous next door neighbour. Vic, who has often worked behind the scenes on PODS' productions, was so convincing

it seemed as if he was going to have a nervous break down!

Other members of the cast were Daisy played by Kim Herinman, Onslow played by Peter Owen, Milly played by Robert Gairey, Elizabeth played by Tiffany Barker, Rose played by Debbie Apollonio, Mrs Debden played by Wendy Huxtable, McTurk and Daddy played by Mike McDonald-Curry.

All are long standing members of PODS and, along with the backstage crew, produced a performance of which they can be justly proud.

In fact it was such an enjoyable evening I shall be booking tickets to take my granddaughter to their Christmas pantomime of Robinson Crusoe.

Tickets for that performance are available online at www.pods-penarth.org or from the ticket secretary Brian on tel: 029 2071 2260.

JENNY CHAPMAN

Season's Greetings... from Dinas Powys Players

THE Players will November 17, 18 present Alan and 19 at 7.30pm. Ayckbourn's The play was originally presented at Season's Greetings the Stephen Joseph at the parish hall, Theatre in Scarborough Britway Road on 1980, subsequently at Thursday, Friday and Saturday, West End and revived in

2010 starring Catherine Tate and Mark Gattiss.

Season's Greetings combines cynicism and humour superbly crafted by Alan Ayckbourn, whose plays have been very well received by the Players' audiences over the years; *Round and Round the Garden* in 1978, *How The Other Half Loves* in 2002 and most recently *Tons Of Money* in 2013 (a revision by Ayckbourn).

The group also enjoyed success with *Gosforth Fete*, a one-act comedy, by the same author.

The Players' November production is being directed by Eileen Carrer with a cast which includes long-established members, together with the welcome return of Mark Conway and three new faces: Chris Parsons, Scott Jones and Ehlanah Dibble.

Telephone 02920 512868 or 02921 406168 for tickets.

Christmas fair in Penarth

FATHER Christmas is making an early start this year with a visit to the Christmas fair in the Paget Rooms, Penarth on Saturday, November 12 (10am – 12noon).

This ever-popular event, which has been a source for presents, cards, cakes, toys and other goodies for Christmas for many years, returns with new stalls and games.

Organised by the parish of Penarth and Llandough, entry is £1, which includes coffee and biscuits. All proceeds will go to the parish funds.

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SUPPORTIVE LETTERS QUESTIONED Call for council report

(CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1)

Coun Mahoney continued: "On the face of it, this would suggest that it is a large groundswell of support for the application from the locality.

"However, what has actually happened is that the 142 letters of objection are almost totally from people living in Sully, and after examining a decent sample of the letters of support, I would say that over 95 per cent of the letters of support come from people outside of Sully who will obviously not have to live with the consequences of the new housing."

He said Sully Sports and Social Club had mounted a campaign to get their members to write in and support the application and they had a right to do so.

SIGNATURES

Coun Mahoney said: "My attention was brought by a local resident to the similarity of writing on signatures on several letters of support, and on further examination I spotted also that a number of letters of support were just signed without any home address or anything. I fail to see why letters such as these are accepted."

He said Vale planning papers had noted that an eagle-eyed local resident had come forward to the Vale planning department to say that he or she had spotted a letter of support

for the scheme purporting to come from the resident which the person hadn't sent.

Coun Mahoney pointed out that the Vale Council had carried out a sample investigative audit of the letters of support – 128 in total – and determined after checking electoral rolls and other means that 20 per cent might not be genuine.

Coun Mahoney said that in view of the sample he saw no reason not to extrapolate that around 160 letters out of the 782 of support may be of doubtful authenticity.

Coun Mahoney said he would be contacting the Vale Council requesting that the evidence and findings of the audit are handed to the police for investigation.

He added: "This alarming development should, of course, be of concern to all Vale residents for the future and I wonder if this has happened on previous applications."

Plaid's **Chris Franks** (like Coun Mahoney, speaking before the Vale Council had released a statement) said people had to have confidence in the integrity of the planning process.

"These revelations are very serious. It simply is not good enough to conduct a limited internal investigation.

"This can only be the first step. The public will take a great deal of interest in the affair and will want all the facts to

be revealed. "Plaid has asked the council's managing director to state what further steps the council intends to take and when a full report will be presented to the public and councillors.

This fiasco has the potential to damage the reputation of the planning process and indeed the whole council."

Rupert Joseland, regional director for St. Modwen in Wales told The GEM: "We do not condone any misrepresentation of public opinion on this planning application."

"In response to an overwhelming and genuine positive response shown by members of the club, and some elements of the local community at various public consultation events, St. Modwen advised Sully Sports and Social Club on the best approach to capture this support, adhering to legitimate practice.

"Any letter signing was co-ordinated by the club and submitted directly to the planning authority."

Alwyn Davies, chairman of the management committee at Sully Sports and Leisure Club, said the club was disappointed when it learned that planning officers were not supportive of its application to modernise and upgrade its sports pitches and facilities.

He went on: "This planning application if approved would provide around 18 new jobs which are much need in the local community.

"Recently, the council announced that it was spending nearly two million pounds on upgrading the facilities at both Cogan and Barry leisure centres. This money is taxpayers' money.

"Sully Sports and Leisure Club are not spending any public money on enhancing our

facilities. We have entered into an agreement to make a considerable investment on regenerating the site and providing and enhancing sporting facilities for the 2,000 people including over 500 children who use our site for recreation.

"Sully Sports Club has the overwhelming support of its members and users of the club.

"The management of the club will work with the Vale Council in any subsequent investigation."

BARRY CHURCHES WILL TELL CHRISTMAS STORY

THE churches of Barry are pleased to announce that 'Christmas the Story' is coming soon to Barry.

It runs from December 12 to December 17, with shows at 10.30am and 1.30pm and an evening show on Tuesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 15 at 6.30pm. It is also free to see.

It will be shown at St Marys Church on Holton Road, Barry. We will have live donkeys again, come and say hello!

If you would like to know more, email barrythenativity@hotmail.com or join the facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/1480640742238845/.

We are very grateful to Martin Gibson, who took the picture. ST



'What's the first rule? Find the baby Jesus.'
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'Partnership is the key to taking Wales forward'

After six years of developing and presenting a budget for the Welsh Government as the former Finance Minister for Wales, it was good to be in a supporting role for my successor, cabinet secretary for finance and local government Mark Drakeford, when he published the draft budget for 2017-18 on October 19.

The headline was: 'A 2017-18 draft budget to take Wales Forward – providing stability and ambition in uncertain times.'

It is vital that we get the message out to the people of Wales to explain the Welsh Government spending plans for next year, which will have a direct impact on their lives, as well as their families', our communities and the Welsh economy.

It is termed a 'draft' budget because it has to be approved by the Assembly and it includes:

- Investing an additional £240m in the Welsh NHS to meet ongoing growth in demand and cost of services.

- £111m for apprenticeships and traineeships to start delivering the commitment to create 100,000 all-age apprenticeships.
- A £100m tax cut for small businesses.
- £10m to support pilot childcare projects, as part of the commitment to provide 30 hours of free childcare a week for

working parents of three and four-year-olds – the most generous offer to working parents in the UK.

- £20m boost in raising school standards, as part of our commitment to provide £100m over this Assembly term.

- £16m for a new treatment fund to provide fast access to new and innovative treatments for life-threatening diseases.

- £4.6m towards raising the residential care capital limit of £50,000.

The cabinet secretary reminded us that the draft budget has been developed against a backdrop of uncertain times.

He drew attention to the continued cuts to the Welsh block grant by the UK Government, as a result of its ongoing programme of austerity and the uncertainty following the EU Referendum result, underpinning the need to provide stability for public services and investment to grow jobs and the economy.

Although these budget plans are for one year revenue spending in 2017-18, due to these uncertainties, Mark Drakeford was able to commit to four-year capital plans worth £6.9bn towards our infrastructure commitments including:

- £1.36bn towards the delivery of our commitment for 20,000 affordable homes.

- £369m towards a south Wales Metro and proposals for north Wales.

- £46m for a new Welsh Development Bank to support our business sector.

- Continuing support

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by VALE AM
JANE HUTT
(Leader of the House)

for city and growth deals across Wales.

- More than £500m in our 21st century school programme.

- £1bn to transform and maintain our NHS estate.

- The development of a new Velindre Cancer Centre, using innovative finance models.

The draft budget included spending commitments agreed with Plaid Cymru – reflecting the compact between the two parties concluded in May – and a number of new, jointly-agreed investments.

This draft budget is now being scrutinised by Assembly Members, with Ministers appearing before committees to clarify points and answer questions before we move to a draft budget debate and a final budget debate in January.

We are mindful of the need to give local government and the NHS as much time as feasibly possible for their budget preparations and decisions before the start of the next financial year in April 2017.

One of the most welcome commitments in the draft budget is the provision of the best local government settlement in years.

Local authorities will also benefit from £60m continued investment in the pioneering Intermediate Care

Fund – supporting the integration of health and social care, as well as increasing funding for the pupil deprivation grant.

Mark Drakeford concluded his Statement on October 19 by saying: "This is a budget for ambition, investing in Wales – in vital new infrastructure; in housing; in transport; in jobs and in our future prosperity – a budget which takes Wales forward."

We can only take this forward in partnership with the public, private and third sectors – but most importantly of all – with the people, communities, workforces and businesses in Wales – who know what works for them and know how Government can make the most impact.

Council 'exit packages' total almost £1.3 million

THE Vale Council's financial statement has revealed that 93 employees received exit packages totalling £1,295,840 in the last financial year.

The figures in the council's Statement of Accounts do not reveal how many years of service the departed staff members had 'clocked up'.

The former employees are included in different bands of earning power. There was just one member of staff given £98,469.

"In Barry, too, there are areas that are at risk such as Gibbonsdown, Cadotown and Palmerston.

"Labour and Plaid representatives may wax lyrical about the budget, but, sadly, I fear it is once again a sign that the Welsh Government have ignored the Vale."

Tory leader's questions over draft budget

LEADER of the Welsh Conservatives and South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, has questioned the Welsh Government's budget announcement, claiming that it will do little to address problems faced by families across the Vale of Glamorgan, or the concerns over flooding.

He said the draft budget, released recently following a deal between Labour and Plaid Cymru, was hailed a success by both parties – despite real terms cash cuts for councils and a 4.8 per cent cut in the

environment and rural affairs budget.

"Across the rural Vale, there have been many examples of severe flooding in recent times, including of course Boerton where the issue has been well documented.

"In Barry, too, there are areas that are at risk such as Gibbonsdown, Cadotown and Palmerston.

"Labour and Plaid representatives may wax lyrical about the budget, but, sadly, I fear it is once again a sign that the Welsh Government have ignored the Vale."

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Charity urges businesses: 'Don't turn a blind eye to the deaf candidates'



Anne Baker and Sam Lazenbury from the Wales Millennium Centre.

BUSINESSES in Wales should stop discriminating against job candidates who are deaf or hard of hearing, according to the charity Action on Hearing Loss Cymru.

A total of 84,000 working-age people in Wales – enough to fill the Millennium Stadium – are deaf or wear hearing aids.

Research from the charity found that many of those people feel they have to hide their condition when applying for vacancies, because they won't get the same employment

opportunities as hearing people.

Action on Hearing Loss Cymru has launched a specialist service to support people who are deaf or have hearing loss to get back into work, the only employment programme of its kind in Wales. The service also offers advice and support to those businesses who want to employ deaf people.

Twenty-three-year-old Sam Lazenbury from Barry has found work through the charity's employment programme.

Sam is deaf, has a learning disability and a stammer.

He said: "Apart from a three-week temporary job I'd been on

jobseeker's allowance since finishing college in 2013. I was attending interviews but not getting any work and I was very frustrated. I was referred to Action on Hearing Loss Cymru's employment service by the Job Centre. They supported me to gain work experience and further qualifications to add to my CV."

"They supported me through a number of job applications and interviews and I was so glad to get the letter from Wales Millennium Centre saying I'd been successful in my application to join the catering and hospitality team. I'm grateful to them for giving me a chance. Earning money is great, I've even bought myself a new car!"

Anne Baker from Brynmawr is Sam's line manager at the Wales Millennium Centre.

She said: "When he started with us, we faced a few challenges, such as the noise in the kitchen making it difficult for him to hear instructions; but with a small change to his shift pattern, we were able to find a way of working that suits him, and us."

To find out more visit www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/wales.

PRAISE FOR THE 'INSPIRING' VALE PEOPLE FIRST GROUP



THE Vale People First AGM and conference at the Memorial Hall in Barry on Friday, October 28 was opened by the Vale AM, Jane Hutt, who praised the inspiring self-advocacy organisation for and led by people with a learning disability in the Vale of Glamorgan.

"I have supported their excellent work for many years and was delighted to speak at their AGM," she commented.

'Stay safe on Bonfire Night!' – fire call

WITH Bonfire Night taking place this Saturday, residents are being encouraged to "stay safe" by South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, which urged them to attend official public displays "which are a lot safer than private events".

It has also urged those using sparklers to always wear gloves, and not hand them out to children under five.

Those who do hold their own events should only buy fireworks marked BS 7114, and they should always be kept in a closed box.

Public displays are being held in a variety of locations on November 5

across the Vale, including Barry Island Pleasure Park (7.45pm), Welsh St Donats and District Community Hall (6pm) and Aberthau Church Plant (6.30pm). Penarth residents can attend events at Holm House Hotel (8.30pm) and Penarth RFC (6pm).

There are also displays being held this Friday, November 4, at Colwinston Village Hall (6pm) and Cowbridge Rugby Club (6.30pm).

RSPCA Cymru have advised that cats and dogs should be kept indoors when fireworks will likely be set off, and people should consider bringing smaller animals that live outdoors inside, too – but they should do so gradually because a sudden change in temperature can cause them harm.

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ESTYN, September 2016

Regional AM calls for clarity over the future of Aberthaw



EXIT STRATEGY?
Andrew RT Davies AM is pictured at Aberthaw Power Station with Richard Little and Mark Picton.

THE future of Aberthaw Power Station must be made clear, to give workers the certainty they need, according to South Wales Central regional AM, Andrew RT Davies.

The Welsh Conservative Leader visited the plant last week and met station manager Richard Little, and commercial operations manager of RWE nPower Mark Picton.

The station employs 600 people and Mr Davies requested the meeting so that he could raise concerns on behalf of local people.

A European Court of Justice Ruling in September, which was against the UK Government, had cast doubt on the plant's future.

The UK Government claimed the power station was not in breach of the rules, but the court disagreed.

Aberthaw was designed to burn

low-volatile coal which comes from opencast mines in Wales.

This coal is harder to burn than coal from elsewhere and the station had been permitted to produce higher emissions of nitrogen oxides than other UK plants.

A company spokesperson told The GEM: "To improve the station's nitrogen oxide (NOx) performance, new boiler technology has recently been fitted to one of its units and this has significantly reduced emissions."

The station is also committed to modifying the plant to enable it to accept a more diverse range of international coal, which will further reduce emissions – this latest project will enable all of the station's units to reduce NOx emissions by an additional 30 per cent."

Richard Little commented: "We welcome the site visit from Andrew RT Davies; it is helpful

for Assembly Members to understand the site and its importance to the UK electricity supply system first hand."

"In anticipation of the European Court of Justice's ruling against the UK Government in September, we have been hard at work with associated plant upgrades."

"The station remains compliant with its environmental operating permit."

"However, there are continuing difficult market conditions for coal generation, and this recent ruling will have a wider cost."

"It is with regret that it will mean our ability to use large amounts of Welsh coal is reduced somewhat earlier than might otherwise have been necessary."

"Despite this, we believe that with plant efficiencies, modifications, and changes to our operating regime, the station can continue to support security of supply into the 2020s."

THIS strikingly symbolic sunrise image was sent in by GEM reader Wendy Thorn of Barry, who writes:

"With so much doom and gloom in the world, I thought I would share this simple picture and text with other readers in the hope that it will bring a smile to their face, inspire optimism in their hearts and make them proud to be Barry residents."

"How many of us are busily preparing for our day ahead as the sun comes up?"

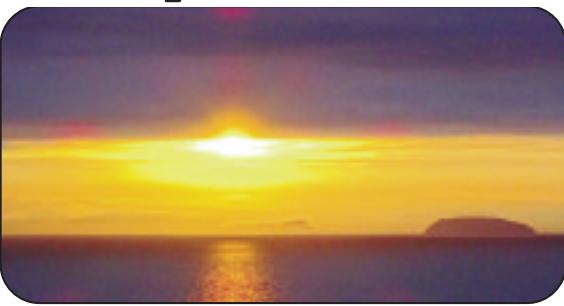
"This amazing spectacle is happening daily, right outside our windows but we allow hectic lifestyles to distract us; robbing us of a glimpse of serenity rising slowly over the horizon."

"This week, I took time to visit Jacksons Bay to observe this magnificent display of nature and capture it on camera."

"In this hustle-bustle world of need, poverty, despair and hopelessness, stop and take a few minutes to view the abundance of colours and wealth of beauty in a sunrise that brings with it the hope and optimism of a new day. Don't take for granted the beauty that Barry has to offer."

"This photograph was taken without any lens filters and has not been enhanced by either a Photoshop or Lightroom programme"

Hope dawns



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Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company

policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.'

Locally Cloudy2Clear service Cardiff & surrounding areas and

Welsh business owner Phil Powell agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

'So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!'

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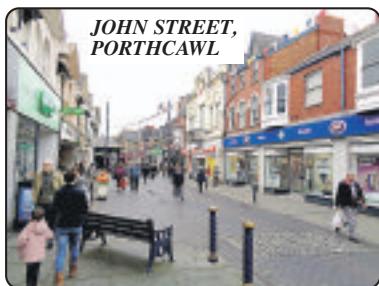
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Passionate about local, independent businesses and what they can offer members of the public



FAY BLAKELEY, who owns a gift shop, 'Homemade Wales' in Barry, which promotes Welsh products, explains the vital importance of independent businesses to the local economy.

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IN BARRY



LLANTWIT PRECINCT

we're here. We have the usual problems with planning and infrastructure – lack of parking, signage and marketing. But we're starting to work with the council on its 'Shop Local' campaign and are hopeful that funds can be released to support this initiative.

Christmas is particularly important to the small independent business: a good Christmas can help see the business through the leaner months.

Councils need to recognise this fact.

Yes, it's a nice idea to have 'pop-ups' and craft fairs, but these take the 'cream' at Christmas and don't support the town all year around. In order to have a thriving high street all year round, priority needs to be given to the independent businesses who stick with it all year around.

If these businesses are not supported, then within a couple of years, sadly, the high street will cease to exist.

WE live in uncertain economic times, which is why I'm so passionate about encouraging the public to shop local and support their local high street.

Unfortunately independent shops, by their very nature, don't have the same financial resilience as the large corporates, but what we do have in our armour is flexibility and the ability to react to our customers' needs and requests quickly and effectively.

Most gift shops buy their stock from the big trade shows. At Homemade Wales, we don't do this. Instead, I work with individual makers, artists and designers or other micro-businesses to source beautiful, unique stock for the shop.

A customer recently told me that Homemade Wales has the best selection of Welsh cards she'd ever seen – I'm proud to supply this service to the Welsh-speaking community. But many of my customers are not Welsh language speakers.

Most of my customers are looking for something that has been beautifully made and that they're not going to find in one of the larger chain stores. They know that they can find gifts 'a little less ordinary' at Homemade Wales.

I have to choose my stock carefully, as I know I can't compete with the prices offered by products made in the far east, China, etc.

'EXTRA SPECIAL'

But, this spurs me on to find something that extra-special and a little bit different, something that the giver will be proud to give and the recipient delighted to receive.

We offer friendly, personal service and free gift-wrapping from a family business. Because we work in partnership with the suppliers, I can tell my customers exactly who made the item they're buying and from where in Wales it came – my suppliers span the whole of Wales, with many right here on our doorstep in the Vale. It's sustainable gift-giving in practice.

The business is growing steadily, as more people hear about us. Social media has been a great help in getting the message out. Customers can see what we have in store and then visit to take a closer look – it's the edge we have over online traders. But not all of my customers use social media, so I'm careful to use more 'traditional' media (eg newspaper press ads) as well.

BARRY is particularly challenging, because unlike other towns in the Vale, we don't have a single, unified shopping centre. We have various shopping areas.

But we need to start seeing this as a strength, and promoting each area for its specific offerings – eg High Street, Island Road and Broad Street are 100 per cent independent and the home to award-winning restaurants and butchers; not many shopping areas can say that!

We have to promote the high street as a real shopping alternative to out-of-town chain stores and online supertraders.

As a society, we need to value what independent shops bring to our communities which is why as a group of traders, High Street Shopping Quarter is committed to organising quality events, like the Christmas Light Switch On, to bring the community together.

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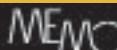
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What's on, where, and when in your area?

Meet your local officers

Court PACT, today (Thursday, November 3) at 6pm at the Witchell Community Centre, Dyfan Road, Barry.

Dinas Powys PACT, Friday, November 4 at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Edith Road, Dinas Powys.

Iltyd PACT at All Saints' Church Hall, Park Road, Barry on Monday, November 7 at 7.30pm.

Gibbonsdown PACT at the residents' board office, Coychurch Rise on Tuesday, November 22 at 10.30am.

Cadoc PACT – Wairrose, Palmerston Road Barry on Thursday, November 24

between 11am and 1pm. You can also meet your local neighbourhood team at Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry every Monday between 10am and 12 noon.

Cowbridge Art Society

ON November 3 the society welcomes

Barry artist Carl Chappel, who will give a demonstration of painting a portrait in oils.

On Thursday, November 10, former V&A curator Roger Pinkham (www.classicalatedforum.co.uk) will give an illustrated lecture on British Surrealists.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at

the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9pm) and occasional visitors and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com and www.facebook.com/cowbridgeartcas.

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT FIRST Independent councillors will hold a surgery at the

Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday,

November 5, from 9.30am – 11.30am.

Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Church bazaar

ST Helen's Church, Barry, is holding its annual bazaar on Saturday, November 5 at the Barry Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road.

Doors open at 1.30pm, admission 50p.

Stalls include books, bottles, china and glass, jewellery, bric-a-brac, gifts, 'prize every time', cakes, raffles, toys, jigsaws and – Mother Christmas!

Music at lunchtime

ON Monday, November 7 at 1pm Nigel Lloyd-Layham (baritone) and Anthony Negus (piano) will play at All Saints' Church, Penarth.

Bring along your lunch, tea/coffee provided. Entry is free, although donations to the organ fund will be greatly appreciated.

TaxHelp for Older People

TOP's income tax surgery will take place on Monday, November 7 at Roz Couzens' Chiropody Surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House, Commercial Street, Llantwit Major (CF61 1RB).

Free professional advice to older people on a restricted income will be offered from 10am – 12pm. No appointment necessary. Home visits can be arranged for those unable to attend, on helpline 0845 601 3321 or 01308 488066.

Cowbridge British Legion
THE AGM of the Cowbridge and District branch of the Royal British Legion will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, November 8 in the Duke of Wellington.

All branch members should attend this meeting and interested non-members will also be welcome.

Cowbridge U3A

THE next Cowbridge U3A monthly meeting will be musical entertainment by Cantorion Creigiau, at 2pm on Wednesday, November 9 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors welcome (there is a small fee, which includes refreshments). See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge.

Community Cinema

OUR next film is *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, a true story about a self taught maths genius from

Madras in India, who earned admittance to Cambridge in World War One.

Showings are on Thursday, November 10 at 3pm and 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Village Shop, Red Lion or by calling 07802 467466.

Charity Bake Off

SUSTAINABLE Wales is organising an autumn fundraising Fairtrade Bake Off at the Green Room Cafe, (above SUSSED) James Street, Portcawl CF36 3BG on Saturday, November 12 at 10am (open to the public from 11am).

Bakers are asked to bring favourite recipes along with a cake made with Fairtrade ingredients (many available from SUSSED). This is a fantastic event for you, schools, churches, groups and members of the public to enjoy.

Call 01656 783962 or email FT Bake Off message to mm@sustainablewales.rth.org.uk.

org.uk by Friday, November 11.

Spring fair in Penarth

FOLLOWING the success of the spring craft fair in March, fundraisers at Trinity Methodist Church, Penarth will hold a craft fair in Trinity Rooms on Saturday, November 12 from 10:30am – 4pm. Entry is free.

Organised by the pastoral visitors team from Trinity with refreshments, raffle, baked goods and 'pre-loved' stall run by Gill Street and daughter Ceri. All profits will go to Crohn's and Colitis UK and Epilepsy Action, both worthy causes.

From 2pm, several crafters will give mini-demonstrations of their crafts.

Donations of raffle prizes and baked goods welcome; contact Ro Newman on 01446 701072, or email Ceri-Lou at fundraising@trinitypenarth.org.uk.

Benefit advice

If you live in the Vale and need advice on Pension Credit,

Attendance Allowance, Housing Benefit, Disability Living Allowance or others, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale run a free welfare rights service to help you.

An advice session takes place on Tuesday, November 15 from 9.30am – 11.30am at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment needed, just come along for a chat.

For further

information, contact 01446 732385; home visits can be arranged.

Diabetes event

VALE of Glamorgan

Diabetes UK voluntary group will next meet on Tuesday, November 15 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm – 9pm.

The speaker will be Dr Lindsay George, consultant physician in general medicine, diabetes and endocrinology, concluding with a question and answer session.

All welcome!

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Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill

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Joanne 01446 404897

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Rhian 07837 280013

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Visually breathtaking... but cumbersome plot lets Doctor Strange down!

IT seems these days that your status in Hollywood isn't measured by how many Oscars you've won, or which directors you've worked with – but by whether or not you're starring in a superhero franchise.

It seems as if most stars are members of either the Marvel or DC family, and the newest addition to the former is Benedict Cumberbatch who takes on the title role in the latest Marvel adventure, *Doctor Strange*.

Cumberbatch plays Stephen Strange, a renowned (and arrogant) surgeon who loses the ability to use his hands properly in a car accident.

When the best medical care fails to restore his hands to full working order, Strange travels to Nepal where he meets a sect led by The Ancient One (Tilda Swinton), who aims to restore Strange's abilities and spirit using mystic techniques.

When the villainous Kaecilius (Mads Mikkelsen), a former



by
GARETH JAMIESON

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way that cities fold in on themselves, but that's just the tip of the iceberg; as Derrickson takes us through different dimensions, he injects the film with a keen visual sense that is unlike anything you've seen before.

The character's emergence on the page in the 1960s infuses the big-screen incarnation with that decade's woozy trippiness. Derrickson capturing that sense and bringing it to life with aplomb.

However, while visually the film is the most unique and interesting offering from Marvel yet, the story is yet another example of cookie-cutter storytelling; the fact it's an origin story isn't the problem, the build-up and development of Strange going from arrogant surgeon to open-minded mystic well told, but the surrounding elements (one-dimensional villain with a world-ending plan; mentor with a shady secret) feels all too familiar.

In fact, after the opening half of the film, which takes in Strange's mental and physical journey, things go a bit flat, and the conclusion, while staged with a sense of scale and a degree of wit (the latter something that is prevalent throughout the film as a whole) feels like a box-ticking exercise rather

than delivering something fresh and different.

In the title role Cumberbatch is effortlessly good as Strange; if pre-accident Strange feels a little too Sherlock-like (minus the anti-social behaviour), then Strange's fall and redemption are well-realised by the actor, who keeps the character on the right side of intriguing and morally upright without coming across too pompously.

While the rest of the cast are all fine, they're hamstrung by being giving very little to do; neither Chiwetel Ejiofor nor Rachel McAdams having any meaningful impact on proceedings, while Tilda Swinton and Benedict Wong (as a mystical librarian whose stony face is a source of constant amusement for Strange) are both fine.

Mads Mikkelsen is a good actor, yet like many Marvel villains, he's saddled with a dull story arc, lacklustre motivation and while trying his best, doesn't quite manage to resonate.

However, the Marvelness of the film keeps it on track to the end, and also has consequences and after-effects for the universe as a whole which are highly intriguing.

It's an impressive debut for the 'Sorcerer Supreme' and bodes well for future outings, both solo and within the larger Marvel universe; you just wish that *Doctor Strange* was a little less formulaic and as intriguing in its narrative as it is in its visuals.

VERDICT: Visually arresting, narratively cumbersome, *Doctor Strange* is a bold new frontier for Marvel, brought to life vividly by Scott Derrickson, Benedict Cumberbatch shines in the title role, but it loses some of its shine through predictable plotting. Enjoyable.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Inception* (2010), *Iron Man* (2008).

VALEPLUS PUTS IN THE HOURS!

VALEPLUS, a charity that provides learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning disability, recently completed 500 volunteer hours in the Parade Gardens, Barry.

The group did gardening duties in the park once a week throughout the summer and early autumn.

As well as keeping the park tidy, the group was also able to work towards training modules on both Agored and ASDAN horticultural courses.

Steve Thomas, a director of ValePlus said: "All our members enjoyed the experience and learned some new practical gardening skills."

ValePlus is based in Barry and Llantwit Major, and further information can be found by looking on the website www.valeplus.org.uk.

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'Keep Rover calm
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Honey relaxing in bed ahead of
Bonfire Night.

AS families enjoy the annual firework displays, dog owners are preparing for one of the most stressful times of the year and the Dogs Trust is hoping its tips will help animals in their care, such as two-year-old Honey, as well as dogs throughout the region, stay as relaxed as possible during fireworks season.

Angela Wetherall, Rehoming Centre Manager at Dogs Trust Bridgend, says: "Dogs don't understand that fireworks are part of our celebrations, for them they are sudden, unpredictable, bright and very loud, so it's not surprising that so many become scared."

"We do our best every day of the year to keep our dogs relaxed, but it's particularly difficult when fireworks start, so it's important to understand each dog so we know how to help them the best we can."

"Our canine carers do all they can, finding out what works best to help each dog cope. For some, this might be building dens where they feel safe or playing classical music to mask the sounds, or being with people."

The charity says that although a fear of fireworks is very common in dogs, their reactions can vary.

Some might want to hide and if that's the case, the charity recommends creating a safe enclosed area, a 'den', in the home where they can retreat to. Others will go to their owners for reassurance and will benefit from sitting close by and having a stroke or a cuddle – whatever they are used to and enjoy.

When it comes to Honey, she has found listening to music and spending extra time with her favourite two-legged friend helps.

Angela Wetherall says: "She is a gorgeous girl but is definitely not a lover of loud noises, so we're making sure she has had lots of mental and physical exercise so she's as relaxed as possible, we play music when she is in her kennel to help mask the sounds and we also make sure a member of staff stays with her to help her cope."

The charity's tips can be found at www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Alaska is nice
all year round!



While big, beautiful and bouncy, Alaska
is a sensitive soul and loves a cwtch!

OUR dog of the week should have a well-adjusted dog already and called Alaska, who is a large dog as she is a big only two years old, and bouncy girl. Alaska can live with active, with a children over the age of 14 years of age.

Her new owners will need to use positive training and work at part of your family, leaving her for short periods as she is used to being with someone all day. If you would like an affectionate husky to be trained, please call the Dogs Trust at Bridgend on 01656 725219, or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk

**Diwrnod
Shwmae
Su'mae 2016**

AR ddwydd Sadwrn,
15fed o Hydref,
dathlodd Menter Bro
Ogwr diwrnod
Shwmae Su'mae am
y flwyddyn.

Shwmae

Su'mae Day

ON Saturday,

October 15, Menter

Bro Ogwr

celebrated Shwmae

Su'mae day for the

fourth year in a row.

The day is now celebrated in every corner of Wales with people promoting the idea of starting every conversation in Welsh by saying 'Shwmae'.

The aim is to show people that the Welsh language belongs to everyone – however much or little Welsh you may have.

In the weeks running up to the event, Menter Bro Ogwr urged individuals, schools, the college, organisations and businesses in the county to join in the festivities and send us their pictures. We also organized a number of activities and events to celebrate the day.

This year, Menter Bro Ogwr took Superted on a tour of some of our county's communities. We visited nurseries and businesses in the Bridgend, Coity, Sarn and Porthcawl area.

In the week running up to the day we also collected a number of videos and photographs of the residents of Bridgend county, saying 'Shwmae' in events such as the Proclamation day, a Cantorion Coety concert, our clubs and Siop Siarad, etc. The photographs and videos can be seen on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Menter Bro Ogwr finds that celebrating the day is an excellent way of raising awareness of the Welsh language and the work we do in the county.

Most importantly it shows that the Welsh language can and does belong to everyone in Bridgend and Wales.

We would like to thank everyone who took part in the celebrations this year, and we look forward to celebrating the day once again in 2017!

Os hoffech chi weld y lluniau a fideos, euch i'n tudalen Facebook:

www.facebook.com/menterbroogwr

AMANDA
JAINE EVANS

'THANK YOU'
says the
Children's Society

THE autumn fair held in Penarth on October 29 raised more than £1,410 for the Children's Society.

My appreciative thanks, on behalf of the society, to all those who supported the day, those who donated in any way, and the wonderful help that comes so willingly.

Thanks also to The GEM for its advance publicity, which helps enormously to encourage the public to attend these events.

ANN LUSH MBE,
(Hon vice-president of The Children's Society and chairman, Penarth fundraising committee).

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Tailor Made Travel lands in Cowbridge!

Pictured from left: Kirby Goddard, Carolyn Reeves, Gaynor Jenkins and Sue Jones.



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LBD time at Samantha B

IT'S fast approaching the party season – so we turn our thoughts to all things sparkly!

The little black dress (LBD) comes into its own. We have a lovely selection of dresses from Pomodoro, Bianca and a new selection from Gina Bacconi, prices starting at £72.

If like me you're more of a jacket and trousers kind of girl, we have that covered too! Sparkly boucle from H and O or if you're daring, a black and silver animal print, gorgeous.

We have a fabulous selection of accessories to finish your look too. If you're looking for something more cosy, how about a lovely coloured pair of jeans from Olsen or Marble, team with a lovely piece of knitwear and voila!

We also have some super outerwear at great prices. Call in and see for yourself and get 10 per cent off with this advert.

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AN EXPERT'S ADVICE COULD AVOID DISPUTE

BRENDAN SWEENEY, of David Prosser & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is

to happen to your estate. Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax.

It is important that people are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney – whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

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David Prosser & Co is the trading name of DP Law Limited.

Parkman Funeral Home

GREENER lives are increasingly being followed by eco-deaths: a natural burial is a natural way to celebrate life, a way of giving back to nature and the environment a gift for future generations, the gift being a protected, nature-rich environment.

As people become more aware, not only of their responsibility to the environment, but also of their ability to choose where their ultimate resting place will be, more and more are turning to natural burial. The impact on the environment is considerably less than that of cremation, and they know they will rest in a beautiful, natural setting.

A natural burial is an ethical choice, with no neglected grave and no burden to survivors charged with the responsibility of grave visiting and maintenance.

Instead of headstones, wild flowers, meadows and trees mark the grave, a true symbol of life and eternity – all part of the circle of life.

Simple, direct cremations
THINGS have changed in recent times and direct cremations have become increasingly popular, David Bowie being the most recent person who decided to

use this option. Some people find that the day of the funeral can be traumatic and upsetting. A direct cremation can be an alternative to this. Some families may wish to hold a thanksgiving or memorial service at a church or chapel; some have held a party to celebrate the person's life.

These are just some examples of what some families have chosen. We would be more than happy to help you arrange any of these.

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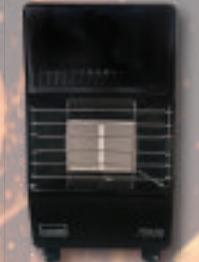
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Walk takes Penarth Ramblers to the 'graveyard for ships'

PENARTH and District Ramblers recently headed across the border to England for two delightful walks in the county of Gloucestershire, firstly when Jan and John took their party of seven walkers to view the Purton hulks.

Leaving the village of Brookend and entering fields, they made their way across to Purton, once a renowned port with a ferry. Unfortunately, their long distance views were somewhat impeded by mist but, making their way to the Gloucester and Sharpness ship canal, once the broadest and deepest in the world with its immense swing bridges and lovely ornate bridgekeepers' houses, they paused for coffee.

After viewing the nearby Victorian St John the Evangelist Church and making their way to the River Severn, where old wooden barges and concrete boats were deliberately rammed into the mud to protect the narrow bank between the river and canal from further erosion, this graveyard for boats is a sight to behold.

Then, on past the old Severn railway bridge where on October 25, 1960 during heavy fog, two tankers carrying oil and petroleum spirit collided with the bridge, fracturing a gas main which caused a massive explosion, resulting in the sinking of both ships with the loss of five lives.

After lunching at Sharpness docks, a short climb and a return through fields led them back to the Lammastide Inn for refreshments prior to the journey home.

The following day, Joy and her 10 companions plus Pepper the spaniel made their way to St Briavels, where the countryside was adorned with an overcoat of mist. Setting off from the castle they descended steeply by means of pretty sunken

lanes, roads and a farm track to the River Wye near Bigsweir Bridge.

Joining Offa's Dyke path, built by King Offa from Prestatyn to Sedbury to protect the border between England and Wales from the unruly Welsh invasions, heading steeply uphill by field and woodland at The Hudnalls, they paused for morning coffee.

Then, scuffing their way through crisp fallen leaves along a series of sunken tracks and heading gradually downhill towards Brockweir, a wide path through woodland and a narrow footbridge over a brook led to their second climb of the day.

Heading up through fields into a cool and blustery easterly wind and seeking the shelter of trees for a lunch stop, the sun came out from behind the clouds to light up the valley below.

More fields and a lane led to the pretty village of Hewelsfield and after visiting the delightful St Mary Magdalene Church with its glorious stained glass windows and the 1,300-year-old yew tree in its circular churchyard, a trek through more fields with views across the Severn estuary led back to the George Inn for refreshments before the journey back to Wales.

On November 5, please note the change to the start time: meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 11-mile moderate walk from Llanhillock to Abertillery; contact Sylvia on 02920 2070 8758.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then contact the walk leader for advice. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 255102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Community enjoys a 'wheel-y' good evening

MORE than 25 members of the local community came together to attend a 'community engagement evening' at Porthkerry Country Park's lodge recently, where they learned more about the park's new projects, including the Heritage Lottery Fund subsidised 'Wood to Wheel' project.

The Wood to Wheel project has been awarded the sum of £63,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and aims to use the money to stabilise sections of the old saw mill in the Millwood area of the Porthkerry Country Park, so that it can be

opened up to visitors, including local schools.

The evening was organised in order to gain some insight into the history of the mill. This will assist with the park's other project – the Historical Interpretation project – which will use the memories and photos gathered on the night for a new augmented reality application.

The app will work alongside the new traditional interpretation panels and a new visitor information room in Nightingale Cottage, and aims to give visitors a deeper insight into Porthkerry's history.

Mel Stewart, ranger at Porthkerry Country Park, said: "It was lovely to meet so many local people who have a lot of interesting memories of the mill and park, people who are willing to help out with the projects.

"We gathered a lot of new information,

including how the Williams brothers were the wheelwrights and carpenters at the mill, and that pigs were kept in the back garden of Nightingale Cottage!"

The park's team is still keen to hear from people who have any interesting memories of the park, anyone who has any old photographs, or someone who knows of a person who worked or lived at the park in the past.

The park will be holding two events early next year to celebrate the woodlands and sawmill, and would like to hear from anyone interested in demonstrating woodland crafts.

To share information, or to find out more, contact Mel Stewart on 01446 733589 or porthkerry@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Come and check out our brand new website at glamorgangem.co.uk - for all your latest sports news from around the area

SUNDAY LUNCH AT THE COPTHORNE HOTEL IS A SPECIAL OCCASION

by TIM CHAPMAN

ONE of the great pleasures of the week is enjoying Sunday lunch with your family – all the more so when it's prepared and served by the staff of the Copthorne Hotel, Culverhouse Cross.

The hotel's elegant, oak-panelled restaurant with feature windows overlooking a lake is a lovely location to enjoy your dining experience.

My wife and I were greeted warmly by Daniel and shown to our table.

Sunday lunch at the Copthorne provides a choice of two courses for £12.95 or three courses for £15.95. Diners have the option of a cheese platter to finish at the end for a £2.50 supplement.

There was a tantalising choice from three starters, four main courses and four desserts.

Smoked salmon is one of my wife's favourites so she opted for the 'Wye Valley smoked salmon rillette cucumber and caper salad, and beetroot jus'. It was tasty, nice and light, and the beetroot jus' gave it a tangy lift. The presentation was excellent with the 'jus' drizzled across the plate making it very attractive. My wife enjoyed the combination of flavours.

For a starter, I decided to plump for 'roast pepper and sweet potato soup with paprika crème fraîche' and crusty bread.

It was hearty, warming soup on a cold day, which left a nice peppery after-taste on the tongue.

Another option for a starter would have been a 'warm Salade Liégeoise' consisted of 'lardons, new potatoes, caramelised onion, French beans, poached egg, roasted vine tomatoes and honey and mustard dressing'. So there was a great selection to kick the meal off.

The service from Alan, Antoine and Victoria was first class – friendly and attentive – and we didn't have to wait long between courses. Everything was brought out promptly.

The choice of main courses was 'roasted salt cured shoulder of pork', 'seared fillet of sea bream', 'roasted sirloin of beef' and a vegetarian option of

'roast Mediterranean vegetable and goat's cheese pithivier with pine nut and cranberry salsa'.

All the above main courses were accompanied by cauliflower/broccoli cheese; glazed beetroot and chantenay carrots and roasted shallots.

My wife chose the pork which came with sage and onion stuffing and roast potatoes. She thought the meat was very succulent and the stuffing complemented the flavour of the pork. The potatoes were nice and crisp – all in all very enjoyable.

I went for the beef which I ordered 'medium rare' and it was juicy and tender. It was accompanied by Yorkshire pudding, one of my favourites, the crisp roast potatoes, and a rosemary scented jus which went perfectly with the beef.

It was topped with a rich beef gravy which added the finishing touch. (I was tempted to ask for seconds!) With little space left



Sunday lunch with the family is one of life's simple pleasures – especially when it is prepared for you – and there's no washing up to do!

we went on to sample the delights of the dessert trolley: lemon meringue tart, sticky toffee pudding, chocolate delicie and an ice cream and sorbet selection.

My wife's all-time favourite dessert is sticky toffee pudding and this was accompanied by salted caramel sauce and vanilla bean ice cream. She didn't say anything for five minutes – so it must have been good.

I went for the chocolate delicie with macerated berries. It has a mousse-like texture and wasn't too heavy after a filling meal.

We were pleasantly surprised that the Copthorne Hotel provided a top quality three course Sunday lunch for as little as £15.95; or two courses for £12.95. Excellent value and in very pleasant surroundings.

We dined at 1pm and it was nice to see parties

of all generations enjoying their Sunday lunch together. Many were regulars who the staff knew well. We are not surprised, it was a very pleasurable dining experience.

In the hectic, pre-Christmas weeks ahead, enjoying Sunday lunch out saves families time and effort, and is a real pleasure. If my wife behaves herself, a return visit to the Copthorne Hotel is definitely on the cards.

Sunday Lunch



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£12.95 2 courses	£15.95 3 courses
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Get your home ready for winter

WITH a prediction that a particularly cold winter may be on its way, households across Wales are being urged not to let the current unseasonably warm weather make them complacent.

The warning comes after an increase in the number of excess winter

deaths seen last year, with vulnerable people living in cold homes a major contributory factor – despite 2015 being the mildest winter on record.

In response, OFTEC, which represents the oil heating industry, is urging the 87,000 oil households in Wales to make sure their heating systems are working efficiently so they can stay warm and well this winter – and save money on their fuel bills. The

advice includes:

- Make sure your boiler is serviced by an OFTEC registered technician so everything is working correctly.

- Check the timers on your thermostat to ensure your heating comes on at the correct time.

- Adjust the thermostats on individual radiators and turn them off in rooms you are not using.

Malcolm Farrow, from OFTEC,

commented: "With the depths of winter still weeks away, it is easy for households to be put off checking their heating system until the cold weather arrives.

"However, waiting until the last minute could leave you in the cold with a costly repair bill. Cold snaps also put an extra strain on heating systems so having your boiler serviced by an OFTEC registered technician will help avoid any problems and provide you with peace of mind."



Plenty of advice on offer... FIVE TIPS FOR ADDING VALUE TO YOUR HOME

OUTGROWN your present place of residence? Julia Gray of the Press Association has some advice...

1/ If you've outgrown your home and you can make it bigger by building an extension or converting the loft, cellar or garage, doing the work is often more economical than moving and gives you an opportunity to create space tailored to your needs.

However, you need to be careful not to enlarge your home in the wrong way.

You'll add most value if everything's in proportion – for example, the right number of bedrooms to bathrooms (aim for at least one bathroom to three bedrooms) and enough living space for the number of bedrooms.

2/ Lofts are often straightforward to convert, especially if the work can be done under your home's permitted development rights, meaning that planning permission isn't required.

Loft conversions usually add most value when turned into a suite with a main bedroom, bathroom or shower room and even, if there's enough space, a walk-in wardrobe or dressing room.

If planning laws allow, maximising the space by adding a full-width

dormer window and altering the side roof so it goes from sloped to 'straight' (when viewed from the front or back) makes for a larger and more valuable loft conversion.

3/ These days, smaller, separate rooms are out and larger, open-plan rooms are in – as far as most of us are concerned.

However, totally open-plan space isn't necessarily the best way to add value, or live day to day, especially if you have children.

Open-plan kitchen-diners/family rooms are now extremely popular, but also having a separate, more formal sitting room works well for many families.

Some families prefer to have a separate playroom or den for the kids, so the mess is self-contained.

4/ One of the best ways to create an open-plan kitchen-diner/family room is to add a ground-floor extension (which can also often be done under your home's permitted development rights) to enlarge the existing kitchen and any rooms you're combining it with, such as a separate dining room.

Add a wall of bi-fold doors leading out to the garden to give a wonderful feeling of inside-outside space and you

have a valuable addition to your home.

5/ If enlarging the kitchen isn't an option, modernising a dated kitchen is one of the best things you can do.

Kitchens and bathrooms are the rooms that most sell homes because replacing them is expensive and disruptive, and while you don't have to spend a fortune to get a good look, any money spent is usually a good investment in these key rooms.

HOW-TO TIP

Do you have unsightly radiator-pipe holes in varnished or stained floorboards?

This is a common problem if the radiators have been moved, leaving the old holes.

Carefully lifting the boards up and holes in and fixing a piece of wood underneath will enable you to fill the holes easily.

If you can't get the boards up and there's nothing to fill on to, gradually build up wood filler around the edge of each hole and when that's set hard, fill the middle of the hole.

Use a flexible wood filler that's the same as, or a similar colour to, the floorboards, or stain the filler the same colour for a good finish.

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DON'T FEAR THE DARK SIDE WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR HOME DECOR

by Gabrielle Fagan,
of the Press Association

Don't be afraid of the dark side when it comes to choosing a colour scheme to set a mood for your

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home!

Black and moody hues – the colour palette for the recent Halloween festival – conjure drama in rooms, especially if enlivened with shots of colour, from pumpkin orange to blood red and night-sky inky blue.

"I'm a total lover of decor's dark side, because those colours make spaces feel incredibly cocooning, cosy and beautiful," declares designer Abigail Ahern, who's renowned for creating mood-setting palettes.

"It's such a shame people are wary, if not downright scared, of using these shades because they're worried they'll be gloomy and overpowering. But if they can be brave and step away from the comfort of neutrals, the rewards are tremendous. "Once they see that a dark backdrop makes other colours – on

furniture and accessories – literally 'pop' with contrast, they're hooked on a look which is grown-up and sophisticated.

"This approach is particularly effective in winter, when we get that lovely soft light and earlier dark evenings, and rooms can be made magical with candlelight.

ABIGAIL'S IDEAS

She continued: "Experiment with dark decor by starting small, so simply paint an alcove or feature wall in your chosen shade, which is what I did.

"Don't judge the effect until you've applied at least two coats, which allows you to achieve the full depth of the shade.

"I don't confine myself to black, although I love it, because green-greys through to deep chocolate browns, inky blues and plummy purples are equally

effective and I've used them throughout my house.

"Rather than synthetic paints, which can have a uniform, flat appearance, use those with natural pigments;

they have interesting nuances of colour which will reveal themselves in different lights.

"For example, a black can have undertones of brown, and blue can reveal green hues."

TIP: Limit yourself to accessories in two or three colours for each room, so you achieve colour cohesion rather than chaos.

For example, with a green/grey backdrop, Abigail introduced green shades, caramels and electric blue.

TWILIGHT ZONE

"Use the recent Halloween celebration as an inspiration for dressing the house with drama, whenever you feel like doing so" enthuses Ahern.

"I love using candlelight, which not only gives a flickering, flattering light but is a real scene-setter.

"Conjure layers by arranging lights on different levels and at varying heights. So

display tea-lights in clusters on tables, candlesticks and candelabras on mantels and shelves, and I particularly like wall sconces.

"Fairy lights draped around pictures, and in

a display in a hearth, will add to the twinkling effect."

TIP: Mirrors and fabrics with metallic finishes, as well as accessories, will reflect the light and add to the magical effect.

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Improve your home lighting

Do you want to improve the lighting in your home? JULIA GRAY of the Press Association has four tips...

1. Lighting should be at three levels in a room – the floor, walls and ceiling, so think about all three.

Plan ahead – if you're having electrical

work done, make sure the sockets are fitted where you want your table and floor lamps, for example.

2. Lighting can be much more creative and useful than just an overhead light in each room.

In bedrooms, do you want wall lights over the bed for reading, or will bedside lamps do?

Don't forget wall lights in the bathroom, perhaps for creating a relaxing atmosphere when you're soaking in the tub.

3. Target lighting, especially in kitchens, can be both practical and attractive.

If you enjoy cooking, lights to illuminate the kitchen worktops (fitted under the wall units) may work well, and think about having strip lights along the wall units and/or kick boards for a dramatic effect.

4. In rooms with lots of recessed spotlights, ask your electrician to zone them so each zone (sitting area, kitchen, dining area, etc) is on a different switch, which will give you more flexibility and control.

You may also want dimmer switches so, again, the lighting's fully controllable and you don't have to sit and relax in bright overhead light.



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STUDENTS' SUCCESS IS CELEBRATED AT COLLEGE



Megan Flanagan and Cavell Beer.



Daniel Declaire.

CARDIFF and Vale College has showcased learners' work at an awards evening on its city centre campus.

The ceremony was hosted by Scrum V presenter Ross Harries.

All students recognised had won awards in their disciplines, and progressed on to university courses, the next level at college, or within their careers.

Two Aerospace winner Matthew Griffiths and Automotive winner Michael Scaccia – will be among the first cohort of specialist workers at Aston Martin's luxury car factory in St Athan when it opens in 2018.

Winners included Capital FM DJ Polly James, who won the college's Alumni award. Unable to attend, Polly sent a special video to say thank you and her breakfast show co-host Matt Lissack collected the award on her behalf.

A-Level student Ben Thomas won the award for contribution to college life. An under-18 Cardiff Blues squad member, who has already represented Wales four times at under-18, 17-year-old Ben is a keen contributor to the college's rugby Academy who carries out his buddy duties with first year students with passion.

The Principal's Award for the student who best reflects the college's values, either through achievement, attitude of participation in extracurricular activities went to Lauretta Hughes.

Lauretta had made the tough decision to return to education after taking time out to raise a family. Deciding upon a career in nursing she took an access to higher education course at CAVC and achieved exceptionally high distinctions, progressing on to Cardiff University. Lauretta also won the college's health and care



Rebecca Rees.



Nadia Hadjali.

really good – I was lucky to have very good tutor in my first year and then to have another really good tutor in my second. Hopefully I'll have another really good tutor in my third year and I can come back and win another award next year!"

This year the college's judges decided there could be no single winner of the hospitality and tourism award so it went to two students: Cavell Beer and Megan Flanagan.

Students at the College's Glamorgan Suite restaurant in Barry, school friends Cavell and Megan were instrumental in the hospitality students raising more than £4,000 for Teenage Cancer Trust and Help for Heroes through a series of charity events this year.

The Foundation Studies Award went to Sean Ball (21) of Cardiff.

Daniel Declaire (26) from Penarth won the Construction Award. Having secured a job with local firm Arnold Building and Carpentry, after six months he applied to CAVC as an apprentice.

"I'm over the moon – it's good and I'm really happy to win this award," Daniel said. "The company I work for has had two apprentices over the last six years so when the opportunity came up I got quite competitive as I really wanted to take this route. It's been



Shipshape and Bristol fashion. Photo by Keith E Morgan.

The Mid Glam Savoyards bring G&S to Porthcawl

LANDLUBBERS and seafarers are invited to attend the Mid Glamorgan Savoyards' annual winter treat; *HMS Pinafore* by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The third and one of the most popular of the Savoy Operas, the plot is about the naughty goings on board one of Her Majesty's ships in Portsmouth Harbour.

The captain's daughter, Josephine, who is supposed to marry the First Lord of The Admiralty, predictable falls in love with one the crew. It's a classic G&S story of love between different social classes with much lampooning of system.

The cast have already taken the plunge with their first rehearsal, attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Porthcawl, Coun Robert and

Mrs Ann Lee.

Regular audience members will recognise familiar faces on stage; it's a seasoned cast and chorus. The full orchestra is locally recruited and we can expect a salty evening of delightful musical entertainment.

Since starting in 1994, the company has raised well over £55,000 for local and national charities. This year, the proceeds will be divided

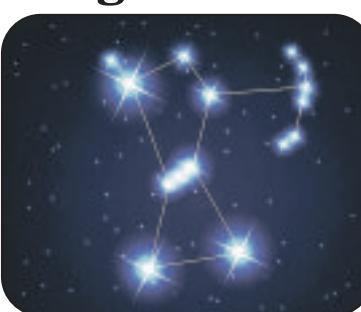
between Macmillan for Cancer Support, KRUF for Kidney Research and The Save the Children Fund.

Book now for a fittingly nautical experience in the Porthcawl Pavilion, Saturday, November 19 at 7.30pm.

Tickets £10 from the Pavilion Box Office, charities and members of the company.

Report by Dominique Spearey

Astronomy Corner – November night skies



Orion's Belt has long been the subject of discussion.

THE Leonid meteor shower will peak on the night of November 17 and early morning November 18, just three days after a full moon.

The Leonids are active every November and are so named because the point in the sky from which they seem to emerge is in the constellation Leo. They occur when the Earth passes through the debris left by the comet Temple-Tuttle, which orbits the sun every 33 years.

Observers can expect up to 20 meteors an hour at the peak of the Leonids meteor shower. Orion (The Hunter), is the most easily recognisable of constellations and is prominent in November's Eastern sky and there is a fascinating hypothesis in which the central

claim is that there is an intended correlation between the alignment of the three largest pyramids of the Giza complex and that of the three stars in Orion's Belt.

The ancient Egyptians associated the stars of Orion with Osiris, the god of rebirth and afterlife.

The obviously reddish star at the left shoulder of Orion is the Red Giant Betelgeuse – a star which is nearing the end of its life and is destined to explode as a supernova.

Betelgeuse is almost 1,000 times bigger than our own sun and is more than 500 light years distant from our solar system. When it finally explodes, however, it will appear as large as the moon in our night skies!

RHODRI EVANS

Valeways take a walk around Colwinston

A TOTAL of 16 walkers joined John At The Sycamore Tree in Colwinston for a Valeways walk.

They walked through the 'thankful village' (all the men returned after the First World War), passing a house called The Ramblers, to enter the grounds of the appropriately named Pwllwrach Manor (the witch's pool).

Walking through the avenue of magnificent old trees, they crossed the A48 at Pentre Meyrick.

A short walk led them to fields and an old abandoned lime quarry, through woods, past a small pond to the site of the Llangan lead mines, where the mine's old chimney stands, all on its

own, a reminder of the Vale's only lead mine.

With superb views across to St Mary Hill with the Brecon Beacons behind, they crossed a small bridge to arrive at Treoes, where a sycamore tree was looking glorious in full autumn colour.

The next objective was Brocastle Farm where they recrossed the A48. Crossing a few more fields they arrived back in Colwinston where a short walk brought them by the school and back to The Sycamore Tree, where welcome food and drink awaited.

Many thanks to The Sycamore Tree for the use of the car park and their hospitality.

John Treby, Valeways walk leader

Two decades' service marked

THE Cardiff and University Health Board's Kathy Bennett has been thanked for her 20 years' service to health in Cardiff and the Vale.

Her long service was recognised by the health board, which provided Kathy with gift vouchers to mark the occasion.

Kathy, of Cowbridge, said: "I've been very lucky to work with lots and the digital lead for website last year."

'Get ready for winter'

LOCAL residents have been urged by David Melding, AM for South Wales Central, to get ready for winter by taking advantage of free help and support with energy bills.

"It's really important to be prepared for winter.

"I want everyone to understand what help is available for them, and for their family and friends. Being energy efficient and keeping bills under control is really important, so I'd encourage people to get in touch with their energy supplier to find out what support is on offer," he said.

"There are a number of simple steps that every constituent should take to make sure they're doing all they can to keep their bills down and their home warm."

Sarwjit Sambhi, Managing Director of UK Home at British Gas, said: "Winter can be a challenging time for households and many people may be concerned about their winter energy bill. Help is available and we urge customers to get in touch so we can offer them advice and support. In the long term, energy efficiency is still the best way to save money on bills. British Gas is proud to be leading the roll-out of smart meters across Britain, which enable you to see how much energy you're using in pounds and pence and identify where savings can be made."

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SÊR EIRY

Mae'r Haul bellach yn arwydd Scorpio, a bydd yn symud i arwydd Sagittarius ar Dachwedd 22ain.

ARIES: 'Dyw gweidi a strancio ddinym yn mynd i ddatrys unrhyw broblem yn eich bywyd, a dweud y gwir mae hynny'n sicr o weud pethau'n waeth! Cymrwch anadl ddfon, cyfrwch i ugan a dechreuwch drafod yn gall gyda'ch cymar neu ffrind agos - a fall daw eto haul ar fryn. Mae ffrindiau yn mynd i fod yn gefn mawr i chi nawr.

Taurus: 'Dyw hi ddinym yn bosibl symud ymlaen os ydych chi'n dal i rygma am y gorffenol. Fe ddyblech ganolbwyntio ari eisyllfa ariannol nawr, a datrys unrhyw broblemu yn eich perthynas agos a derbyn na fedrchwch chi newid pob peth yn eich bywyd. Mae pethau'n argoel'i dda yn y gwaith. Gwrandewch ar gynghor henn ffrind.

GEMINI: Mae safle'r planedau ar hyn o bryd yn yngolgyu fod 'na benllan ar fin digwydd ym eich bywyd, a bod rhwym adran bwysig ohono yn dirwyn i ben; ond na phoenowch, wrth fod un drws yn cau mae un arall yn siwr o agor gan gynnig rhwymeth newydd cyffrous yn llawn addewid i chi.



hefyd gan fod Iau planed lwc a thyfiant yn eich arwydd ar hyn o bryd. Acr, falle fod pethau'n ymdangos yn dawel mae llawer yn mynd ymlaen o dan yr wynab.

SCORPIO: Mae hwn yn degol o fod yn gyfnewid Iwcuawn i chi. Bydd rhwystrau sy wedi'ch dal o yn ddiweddar yn flannu.

Mae'r pwyslais ar eich cartre ar hyn o bryd -

fallech eich bod yn meddwl

symud ty, neu newid eich

cartre presennol mewn rhwym ffodd. Mae hwn yn gyfnewid rhamathus ariell i bobol o bryd.

Ers sefydlu Ysgol Gymraeg

Bro Morgannwg yn 2000, mae

cymddydd sylweddol yn y nifer o

rieni sy'n dewis addysg cyfrwng

gyfnewid ym ddiweddar.

SAGITTARIUS:

Rydych chi wedi bod yn sgubgo rhwym problem emosiynol o dan y carpel ers yn llawer rhwym.

Bydd rhwym ddiwydiant yn ym gynnar yn Mis Tachwedd yn eich gorfoli i wneud newidiadau.

Ydych chi wedi bod yn cymryd rhwymun agos yn ganiatol yn ddiwedd?

CAPRICORN:

Anglofwrwch eich poenau a'ch gofidiadau - ewch allan i chwarae a mwynhau eich hunan. Rydych chi wedi bod yn llawer rhwym ddiwrifol ers yn llawer rhy hir. Nawr gyda'r Nadolig yn nesau mae'n bryd ysgafnifau, neu fydd gyda chi ddinym ffrindiau ar ôl! Mae 'na swm o arian sylweddol ac annisgwyl ar ei ffordd i chi.

AQUARIUS: Gan fod y blaned breuddwydiol Neifion yn eich arwydd, rydych chi'n ddiweddol o fod yn gymysglod iech meddwl. Ar y llaw arall mae hyn yn golwyn bod gyda chi'n gallu i fod yn greadigol tu hwnt, shianwch eich ynni felly i greu. Mae angen eich rhuddid arnoch i chi nawr - peidiadwch â gadel i dlinm na neb eich carheru.

VIRGO: Os bu rhai problemau teuluo yn eich poenï'n ddiweddar mi fyddan nhw'n clario erbyn dechrau Mis Tachwedd. Mae rhwymeth yn y gwylodd o'r wedi cael ei ohirio am amryw resymau yn mynd i gael y galon gwylod o'r diwedwa mi ddyfodol a mi ffwrddwch chi'n elwa'n ariannol o hymny. Rydych chi'n emosiynol fawn ar hyn o bryd - ymlaciwch!

LEO: Mae Neifion, planedau breuddwydion ac anserwydd yn cael tipyn o effaith arnoch chi ar hyn o bryd. Fel rheol fe allwch chi ddibwyrnu ar eich meddwl chwim i'ch cael allan o drafferth pan fo problemau yn eich poenï, ond nad y felly nawr rwy'n ofni. Mae eich meddwl wedi ei gymylu braid, a mae'n bosibl y bwyddwch chi'n barnu'n annoeth.

PISCES: Mae'n bosibl y daw arian i'ch côl yn gynnar ym Mis Tachwedd. Mae rhwymeth yn y gwydd o'r diwedwa mi ffwrddwch chi'n elwa'n ariannol o'r hymny. Rydych chi'n emosiynol fawn ar hyn o bryd - ymlaciwch!

LIBRA: Mae'r planedau yn cynnig cyfle i dechrau pennod newydd cyffrous yn eich bywyd. Mae lwc gyda chi

Cytundeb wedi'i lofnodi i hybu defnydd cymdeithasol o'r iaith Gymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg a Menter Bro Morgannwg wedi llofnodi cytundeb fframwaith newydd i ddatblygu gwasanaethau newydd i gryfhau'r iaith Gymraeg yng nghymunedau'r Fro

Sefydlyd Menter Bro Morgannwg ym mis Ebrill 2013 gyda'r nod o hybu ac ehangu defnydd cymdeithasol o'r iaith Gymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg. Ers hymny, maent wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda'ch Cyngor i gynnig nifer o weithgareddau a digwyddiadau i greu mwy o gyfleoedd i breswylwr y Fro, ddefnyddio'r iaith y tu allan i'r gweithio'n agos gyda'ch Cyngor i gynnig nifer o weithgareddau a digwyddiadau hamdden eraill i bobol o bryd.

Ers sefydlu Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg yn 2000, mae cymddydd sylweddol yn y nifer o

rieni sy'n dewis addysg cyfrwng

gyfnewid ym ddiweddar.

Rydym yn falch iawn bod y

Cyngor yn rhan o'r cytundeb

Cymraeg ar gyfer eu plant. Yn ei drio, bydd hyn yn cynyddu nifer y siaradwyr Cymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg. Bwriad Menter Bro Morgannwg yw annog y plant hymny sydd mewn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, a'u rhieni, i ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg y tu allan i'r dosbarth mewn sefyllfa oedd

yn nod fel sefydliad.

Mae'r cytundeb fframwaith hwn yn gydnabyddiaeth ffurfiol o'r gwaith partneriaeth sydd eisoes wedi digwydd rhwng Menter Bro Morgannwg a'r Cyngor i gynnig y gweithgareddau hyn aymrwymo i barhau i gydweithio i gynnig y cyfleoedd ym ddiweddar. Yn ogystal, mae'n amlwg ymrwymiad y Cyngor i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru i gyflawni nod eu strategaeth: iaith fyw, iaith byw,

Dwyeddod Rob Thomas, Rheolewr Gyfarwyddwr Cyngor Bro Morgannwg: "Bydd y cytundeb hwn yn cyrhau'r bartneriaeth rhwng y Cyngor a Menter Bro Morgannwg. Fel sefydliad cyhoeddus ym Nghymru, mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod yn llawn ei rôl o ran ddatblygu defnydd o'r iaith a'i gyfrifoldeb i gynnig amryw weithgareddau cymunedol cyfrwng Cymraeg i breswylwr. Edrychaf ymlaen i adeiladu ar y bartneriaeth hon a mynd i'r afael a'n nod fel Cyngor i adeiladu cymunedau cryf gyda dyfodol disglaire."

hwn, sy'n gwarantu y byddwn yn gallu parhau i adeiladu ar y gwaith da sydd eisoes wedi'i wneud yma yr Fro. Rydym newydd gynnwys Gŵyl Fach y Fro am y ail drio, a oedd yn llwyddiant ysgubol, ac rydym yn gobethio parhau i weithio'n agos gyda'r Cyngor i gynnali digwyddiadau fel hyn ac i gyflawni ein nod fel sefydliad.

Dwyeddod Rob Thomas, Rheolewr Gyfarwyddwr Cyngor Bro Morgannwg: "Bydd y cytundeb hwn yn cyrhau'r bartneriaeth rhwng y Cyngor a Menter Bro Morgannwg. Fel sefydliad cyhoeddus ym Nghymru, mae'r

Cyngor yn cydnabod yn llawn ei rôl o ran ddatblygu defnydd o'r iaith a'i gyfrifoldeb i gynnig amryw weithgareddau

cymunedol cyfrwng Cymraeg i breswylwr. Edrychaf ymlaen i

adeiladu ar y bartneriaeth hon a mynd i'r afael a'n nod fel Cyngor i adeiladu cymunedau cryf gyda dyfodol disglaire."

Mynd am Dro i Fro... OGWR! gyda Dailingual

Gyda dyfodiad Eisteddfod yr Urdd i Benyont-ar-Ogwr a Thaf Elai yn 2017, a gan ein bod ni wedi mynd am ambell dro cyn bell o'r Fenni dros yr haf, teimlaf y bod hi'n gyfle gwych i ymwmeld gyda'n cymdogion i'r Gorllewin cyn diweddu y flwyddyn.

Felly, beth am

Borthcawl i ddechrau?

Dydi Porth-y-Cawl ddinym

o reidrwydd ym ymwyndy

gyda chawl.

Yn ôl yr ysgolhaig o Bont Trystan ab Ifan, ceir y cawl sydd

ym Morthcawl yng

nghawl dim ond o fath

arbennig iawn: sef 'cauliflower soup': neu gawl

'colliflwr' yn ôl Cysill!

Ie, mae'n debyg mai'r un

tarddiad sydd gan y dduair

Dydw i ddim o'r

reidrwydd yn argymhell Gwglgio

'caul' oni bai iach bod

chi am wybod mwy am

enedigaeth babanod, ond oda'i waeth am hymny. Ceir yr un sain ym y gair Saesneg 'cauldron' wrth gwrs, sydd yn ddiogelu tŷ ei sail i gawl crwn, er mae'n debyg taw o'r gair Cymraeg (digon anghyfreddi erbyn hyn) 'caffor' y lâd 'cauldron' - wastad yn bleser dod o hyd i eiriau Saesnes sydd ag iddynt wreiddiau Cymraeg serch 'ny!

Dathlyd camlwydiant Tabernacl

Porthcawl ym mis Medi

eleni yn Morthcawl, a

gwerth nodi mai'r un

an fan addoli newydd y

i'r iaith osedd diben y

Tabernacl o'r cychwyn

cyntaf, fel mae'r papur

bro leol Yr Hwgwr

yndatgan yn ei rifyn

ydweiddant arbennig o

gofniod gweiriadol o'r

cyfnod: "Pasiwyd yn

unfrydol bod achos

Cymraeg yn cael ei

gychwyn ym

Morthcawl", a hyn

wedi ymwelwyr yr haf i

Borthcawl (o ba fro

tybed?) wedi cwyno nad

oedd yna wasanaeth iaith

Cymraeg ar gael ym

dref tua diweddu'r

adeilad i ddiweddar.

Ar drothyd blwyddyn

ymweliad Eisteddfod yr

Urdd, peth da yw cofio

bod cymuned ym Mro Ogwr

wedi dod at ei gilydd

dros yr iaith erioed yn eu hanes.

Pe bai eich grŵp

cymunedol Cymraeg chi

angen cymorth neu gyn-

gor ynglŷn â dechrau

neu hybu prosiect yn

ymwneud â'r iaith

Cymraeg, mae

Cynghrair Cymunedau

Cymraeg yn edrych am

grwpiau cymunedol i

gefogi gyda'u prosiect

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On and Off The Turf with Brian Lee

ABERTHIN'S Tim Vaughan saddled another winner last week when his Wistari Rocks ran out a six lengths winner of the handicap hurdle race at Uttoxeter last Friday under Alan Johns.

Twelve runners went to post and seven-year-old Wistari Rocks was returned the 7-4 favourite.

FLINT'S

HUNTINGDON WIN Vale trainer John Flint saw his six-year-old Moss Street land the opening 32Red Casino Claiming Hurdle at Huntingdon on Sunday.

Partnered by his son Rhys, the consistent Moss Street, who was

made the 11-4 favourite, romped home 11 lengths clear of My Brother Sylvest bred by Mr Flint's friend David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud, Bridgend.

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan's Lake Chapala was strongly fancied to make it a double for Vale trainers when lining up for the Macer Gifford Handicap Chase later in the day only to refuse at the start.

One man who has done more than most for Welsh hunt-racing is David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud, Pyle near Bridgend.

David, sponsor of the prestigious Dunraven Bowl run at Chepstow Racecourse, and a number of other races besides, has owned and

trained many winners under rules and between-the-flags and two of his horses are featured in my recently published book, Racing Rogues: The Scams, Scandals and Gambles of Horse Racing in Wales (published by St David's Press at £14.99).

In the chapter Gambling Coupes, David's two horses featured were Margam Abbey, which he also bred, and which won at the Silverton Point-To-Point in 2008 and the oddly named Tegucigalpa a winner of a hunter chase at Taunton that same year.

However, the gambles on these horses were nothing like the one landed by another horse trained in the Vale called Dead Or Alive which was ridden by

Dean Coleman and saddled by Abbi Vaughan, wife of Aberthin National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan.

Dead Or Alive, a horse I had tipped as one to follow in the Racing Post Weekender some months earlier, romped home at the Flint & Denbigh Point-To-Point in 2009 after being backed off the boards.

Another big gamble which involved a horse from the Vale was that of Delyth Thomas' Am I Blue, which won at Hereford races in 2010 and of which one reporter wrote: "There was outrage in some quarters and amusement in others."

Going back in time, another story, The Oyster Maid Affair, is about a great gambling coup engineered at

Tenby in 1927 which nearly put paid to horse racing in Wales and was said by the Queen Mother's jockey, Dick Francis, to have been 'the most bitterly resented betting coup National Hunt racing has ever known'.

Then there is the story of the elaborate switching of horses and the cutting of the telegraph wires at Bath races in 1953 which saw Cardiff bookmaker Gomer Charles jailed for two years for fraud after his syndicate placed £100k worth of bets on a 'ringer' that won at 20-1.

The chapter on The Scandals includes a story of another one of David Brace's horses, Gunner Boon, who it seems everyone on the course thought had won

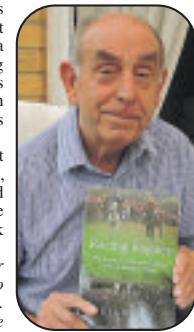
the first division of the maiden race at the Tiviside Hunt races by half-a-length apart from the judge, who ruled that Peter Bowen's Dusty Trail had won by a head!

Then there is the story of how a dab of Vick on the nose of a horse which won at the Llangeinor Hunt Steeplechases at St Mary Hill in 1989 resulted in the owner/trainer being fined £100 and also losing the race.

The book is illustrated throughout and there is also a chapter on the flapping (unlicensed) meetings that used to be held in the Vale and other parts of Wales.

Welsh racing's most notorious crooks, loveable rogues and infamous scams can be found in this little book of mine.

You can e-mail your racing news or views to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Conservation Area:/

Ardal Gadwraeth

2016/01172/FUL

New two storey side extension and various associated internal renovation works

3, Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit Road,

Michaelston Le Pit

Michaelston-le-Pit

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Conservation Area:/

Ardal Gadwraeth

2016/01181/FUL

Change of use of first floor from flat into 2 no. Bed and Breakfast accommodation rooms. Removal of 1 and insertion of 2 no. rooflights. External access stair relocated

Hare and Hounds Inn, Maendy Road, Aberthin

Aberthin

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Conservation Area:/

Ardal Gadwraeth

2016/01193/FUL

Extension to existing dwelling

Plaisted House, Llanmaes

Llanmaes

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Conservation Area:/

Ardal Gadwraeth

2016/01201/FUL

Rear link extension from the main house to the existing garage

10, The Limes, Cowbridge

Cowbridge

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Listed Building:/

Adeilad Rhestredig

2016/01133/LBC

Renewing existing defective timber entrance doors with new timber doors and frames to match existing 1-6, Church Row, Pendoylan

Grade II

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Listed Building:/

Adeilad Rhestredig

2016/01190/LBC

Take down 2 no. chimneys, insert lead trays, rebuild as existing with reclaimed bricks/furnaces Tudor blacks, fit new ridge tiles

Lwyn Celyn, 77, High Street, Cowbridge

Grade II

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Land rear of 6, Salmons Wood, Graig Penllyn

Departure from Development Plan/ Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/

Rhif y cais:

Proposal/Cynnig:

Location/Lleoliad:

Land rear of 6, Salmons Wood, Graig Penllyn

2016/01236/OUT

Erection of two dwellings including access and parking

Land rear of 6, Salmons Wood, Graig Penllyn

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 3 November, 2016

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager,
Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry, CF63 4RT



The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

SUPER Saturday lived up to the billing with goals, surprises and drama in equal measure.

We start in the Premier Division as each fixture saw opposition in close proximity in the league table.

Vale United continued on with their perfect start to the season as they emphatically defeated second place Penarth Town 5-1. The result sends Town down to fourth to highlight the competitiveness of the division.

St Athan leapfrogged Penarth into second as they edged out Barry Athletic 3-2 and Cowbridge Town went third after a 10 goal thriller, winning 6-4 against Island Marine.

Rhoso made in it three wins on the bounce in all competitions with a 4-0 win

over Dinas Powys Athletic and Tynewydd won the battle of the bottom two, 3-1 over Masons Moving Group to move up a place to eighth.

In Division One the top six collided and we have new league leaders. FC Pumas went top after a hard fought 2-1 over much-fancied Barry Belgrave, who drop to third after Barry Athletic B saw off fourth place SP Billy 3-1.

Cadoxton Athletic swapped places with Cogan to go fifth as they won a cracker, 4-3.

Sully Sports routed hapless bottom side Glenbrook, while Cadoxton Barry finally recorded their first league win of the season, 5-2 against Cardiff Airport.

In Division Two BV were second after last week but only temporarily as Barry Saints reclaimed it in style as they bashed

BV 9-1.

Cadoxton Imps made it a perfect 10 as they thumped bottom side FC Pumas 8-0. Penarth Town B closed the gap on third place to point as they won 4-1 over Barry Albion. Finally, St Athan B won their first in four as they edged out Island Marine 2-1.

This week it's the Barry Cup quarter-finals and tie of the round is between the top two in the Premier League as St Athan host the undefeated Vale United.

Finally, Louie Coffey after 36 as attendant at Barry Sports Centre has taken retirement.

On behalf of everyone in the league may we thank him for many years of service to parks football and wish Louie a happy retirement - Barry Sports Centre won't be the same without him.

HD

At Bar Cocoa it was business as usual for Cocopops captain Graham Avaint, leading his team to a 8-2 win, saying it was a great night with a very good team performance and the whole team making match-winning decisions at Fennegans.

The Island team's stand-out players were Andre Senior in the new players of all abilities, so if interested Jamie Crole and Joseph Ashenhurst in the 498738 or email doubles.

Thanks to everyone. gve@gmail.com. JB

Dodgeball tourney comes to Llantwit

THERE will be a dodgeball tournament at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre on Friday, November 18.

After the tournament there will be a live band, The Longshots, and there will also be food available and a bar all night.

A spokesman said: "It's a simple and fun game, teams will be made up of 6 – 10 players, £30 per team entry. If you require an entry form or further information, visit either Llantwit Major or Cowbridge Leisure centres.

"There will be prizes for the winners and best dressed teams. The tournament begins at 7pm, spectators are welcome for a small fee on the door. "All profits will go to Bloodwise Wales who deal with the care, treatment and research of all blood cancers."

DH

Barry & District League tables and results news

CRIB DIVISION 1:

West End 6, Liberals 9; Cadoxton Cons 6, Moors Boys 9; Wyndham Cons 8, West End Runaways 7.

League Table Liberals 61, Wyndham Cons 56, Moors Boys 51, Rhoose Social 49, Cadoxton Cons 48, West End 48, West End Runaways 47.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

King William XII 5, West End D 2; Allsorts 1, Rugby Club 6;

Slammers 2, Barries Boys 5; Liberals C 5, Rhoose Social A 2; Rhoosters 1.5, Rhoose Social B 5.5, Rhoose

Social C 2.5, West End C 4.5.

League Table King William XII 31, Rhoose Social B 31, West End D 29, West End C 26.5,

Barries Boys 24, Allsorts 24, Rugby Club 23.5,

Liberals C 23, Rhoose Social A 22.5, Rhoosters 22.5,

Rhoose Social B 16, 20.5, Sea View B 15,

Wyndham Cons A 16, Slammers 14.5,

Cambrian Flyers 11.5, Liberals A 10.5.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Wyndham Cons A 3, Rhoose Social C 2;

Services Social B 2, Harbour B 3; Penarth

Cons A 1, Savoy A 4;

Rhoose Social B 0, Cadoxton Cons Z 5;

West End C 1, Cadoxton Cons B 4.

League table: Savoy A 33, Harbour B 29,

Cadoxton Cons Z 24, Cadoxton Cons B 18,

Penarth Cons A 17, Rhoose Social B 16,

Wyndham Cons A 16, Rhoose Social C 13,

Services Social B 12, West End C 11, Penarth

Cons B 6.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Harbour A 3, Market Street C 2; Wyndham

Cons C 5, West End B 0; Liberators 4, Sully

Sports A 1; Market Street B 4, Savoy B 1.

League table: Savoy B 23, Liberators 22,

Wyndham Cons C 22, Harbour A 20, Market

Street B 19, Market Street C 17, Sully Sports

A 17, Cadoxton Cons A 16, West End A 15, West

End B 13, Wyndham Cons D 11 (* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

Tim lands Chepstow winner!

TIM Vaughan's six-year-old bay gelding LooksNowLikeBrian was the easiest winner of the day at Chepstow last Tuesday.

Partnered by champion jockey Richard Johnson, LooksNowLikeBrian, who was made the 5-4 favourite in a field of 12 runners, came home 14 lengths ahead of Dropzone in the Truck And Bus Wales Handicap Hurdle and was the third leg of a hat-trick for Johnson, who is going all out to retain his championship title.

A winner at Fontwell the previous week, LooksNowLikeBrian is by Brian Boru and Sheebadiva.

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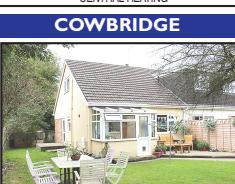
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Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

THE latest results from Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing October 17 are as follows:

Starlights (S Barnes 24) 238, SV Lights (D Thomas 27) 233; Airways Angels (M Carpenter 27) 241, Merry Makers (J Baker, M Payne 24) 219.

Third division: Little Devils (T Jones, G Bowen 26) 215, Witches (Y Curnow 26) 223; Vixens (L Galsworth 27) 248, La Belles (S Curtis 26) 262; Rebels (S Williams 25) 165, Hill Billies (G Moorcraft 18) 179; Westenders (T Lambeth 34) 272, Rugby Triers (S Cogbill 33) 234; Barry Stars (M Richards 35) 342, Bobby's Girls (S Saldon 35) 309; Coppers (D Nesbitt 39) 319, Cigar Ladies (L Webb 32); Colcot Ladies (K Taylor, A Singleton, H Edwards 25) 244, Allsorts (H Bunting 28) 260.

Second division: Castle Bandits (E Evans 25) 237, Fallen Angels (J Tudor 27) 250; Roller Coasters (J Marriott, G Giles 23) 217, Cluckles (E Walters 24) 183; Cad Con Fillies (D Stringer 24) 219, Breakaways (L Smith 26) 240; Witchill Widows (S Murray 34) 325, Castaways (R Burne 33) 340; Rhoose

The Dinas Wolves overpower Lions

DINAS POWYS Wolves came out on top in derby match against Dinas Powys Lions, winning 5-3.

This was a local derby that both sets of players look forward to played in the right spirit.

Wolves didn't take long to find there goalscoring touch that left them the previous week as Robson Mallam scored the opening two within 20 minutes.

The game as a contest looked over after 10 minutes of the second half when Rian Thomas,

Kyle Booker and Callum Hewitson added a goal each.

But the Lions never gave up and hit three goals late on through Kieron Leonard.

LS

Dinas Powys Golf Club - Ladies' golf results

THE latest results from Dinas Powys Golf Club Ladies' section are as follows:

46 - 9 = 37 nett; third Dorothy Amery, 51 - 13 = 38 nett (on count back from Ruth Yates 51 - 13 = 38 nett).

October 18, Captains v Secretaries nine hole matchplay with two clubs and a putter. The Secretaries were successful in winning this competition and each received a prize.

October 24, nine hole Stableford: First Sally Livsey Davies, second Rhian Thomas, third Sue Bridle (30).

October 25, a nine hole turkey trot strokeplay: First Sian Smith 45 - 11 = 34, second Sue Bridle 44 - 9

White Elephant = 35, third Ann Saunders 48 - 17 = 31 = 35 nett; second Sue Bridle

RY

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

DR

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D68



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E45



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C73



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D57



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D61

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D67



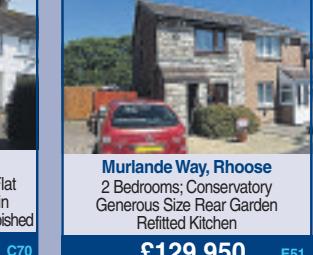
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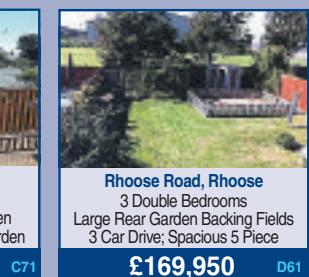
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D59



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D68

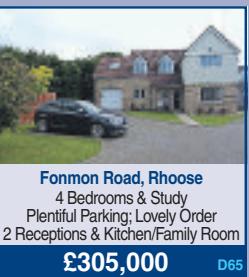


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C73

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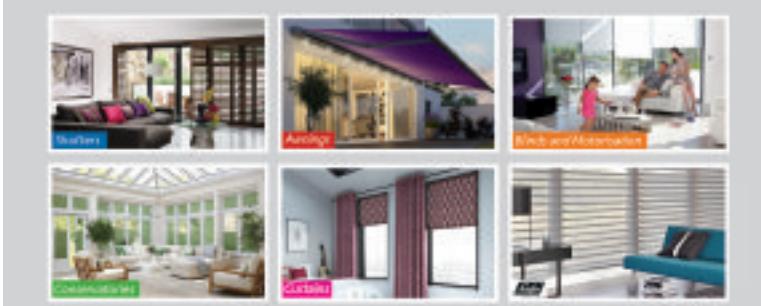
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Family Notices

JONES

Malinda Ivy (Linda) (formerly Bradbury)

Peacefully on October 25 at Llandough Hospital, Linda, much loved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, November 7 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be given to Alzheimer's Research UK, Suite 1, Ground Floor, North Court, David Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 3TP.

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PAYNE

Daisy

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Funeral services at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, November 11 at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu of flowers to either Ty Hafan Children's Hospice, Hayes Road, Sully, CF64 5XX or Marie Curie Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

In Memory

Marlene Mortimer

5 November 2012

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CLEMENTS

Olive Irene S.R.N., S.C.M., B.T.A.

Peacefully on October 20 at Llandough Hospital, Olive of Barry, formerly of St. Athan. Dear wife of Stanley, mother of Lucy and Katie and grandmother of Ben and Ellie.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, November 7, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to MacMillan Nurses, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

MAYHEW

Kevin John

Died peacefully, aged 61, at The Royal Marsden Hospital, Surrey, on October 19 following a short but brave battle with cancer. Devoted husband of Deanne, much loved son of Ginny, he was a dad, grampy, brother, brother-in-law and son-in-law. *He is dearly loved and will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.*

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Home, 181 Court Road, Barry until his funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, November 11 at 2pm. Family flowers only, charitable donations in Kevin's memory may be made to the Royal Marsden Charity via Kevin's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk. Further enquiries tel. 01446 407962.

GEORGE

Edna Mary

(Previously of Marcross and Crawshay Court, Llantwit Major)

Peacefully at Morganas Court Nursing Home on October 23 with her family. Edna, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. *She will be sadly missed by all family and friends.* Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Marcross on Wednesday, November 9 at 1pm, followed by interment. Flowers may be sent to J.R & M.F. David, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

BROWN

Larry

After a short illness fought with great courage and dignity, Larry sadly left us on October 25. Devoted husband to Cheryl, much loved brother of Marion, Netta, Jeff, Robert, Steve, Terry and James.

Larry will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Resting at the Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until a celebration of his life at Bethel Baptist Church, Harbour Road, Barry on Thursday, November 10 at 1.30pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service or sent direct to The Donkey Sanctuary, Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962

OLDING

Trefor Robert

Peacefully after a short illness at Llandough Hospital on October 26, Trefor, aged 76 years. Beloved husband of Christine, much loved dad of Gary and Nicola, father-in-law to Sian and Neil, cherished gramps to Lyndon, Nathan, Emily, Kurtis and Erin.

Trefor will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service in the Chapel of Rest on Tuesday, November 8 at 2pm followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Cancer Research Cymru c/o the funeral director.

DAVIES

Glenys Elizabeth Grace

Suddenly on October 25, aged 87, at the Princess of Wales Hospital. Beloved wife of Eric and much loved mother of Nigel and Wyn. Cherished mamgu of William, Jonathan and Angharad.

Glenys will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral service on Thursday, November 10 at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge at 2pm, followed by private family cremation at Coychurch Crematorium. No flowers by request. Donations in lieu, if so desired, to Ty Hafan Children's Hospice, Hayes Road, Sully, CF64 5XX.

MEREDITH

John Charles

Suddenly on October 18 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, John of Llantwit Major. Beloved husband of Leslie, dearly loved father of Anna and Peter, stepfather of Ian and Susan, Colin and Emma, much loved Dana of Maddie, Sophie, Mason, Cerys, Elin, Aneirin and Ioan, respected uncle of Mark.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, November 8, service 10.30am at St. Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 12 noon. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Velindre Cancer Centre c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

WILLIAMS

Valerie

(Dog Hill Farm)

Val peacefully passed away after a long illness on 26th October 2016. Devoted wife of the late David, beloved mother of Huw and John, loving grandmother of Charlotte, sister to Brian, Diane, Philip and Margaret.

Val will be sadly missed by all family and friends. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday, 9th November at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park & Crematorium at 1pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, would be appreciated to Alzheimer's UK.

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Acknowledgements

DAVIES

Tom

(Tudor Garage)

Gavin, Valmai, Michael and Leighton would like to thank all family and friends of Ystradwen for their kind words, cards and attendance at Dad's funeral, and donations to Y Bwthyn Newydd.

Thanks also to Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors and Minister Heather Weddell. Also, thank you to the Sam Davies Ward, Barry Hospital and College Fields Nursing Home for the care given to Dad during his last months, where his sparkling eyes closed forever.

BOWLES

Graham

The family wish to thank everyone who attended the funeral, expressed messages of sympathy and gave donations to the Alzheimer's Society.

Thanks also to Canon Patrick O'Gorman for officiating and to the staff at A.G. Adams and Parkside Care home. Special thanks to the staff at the Waverley Care Centre for their excellent care and compassion.

GEORGE

Robert William

The family would like to thank everyone who attended Bob's funeral and donated to the Alzheimer's Disease Society.

Also, thank you to Springbank Nursing Home for the care provided, together with W James & Sons Funeral Directors, Fonmon and Canon David Brunning for the services provided.

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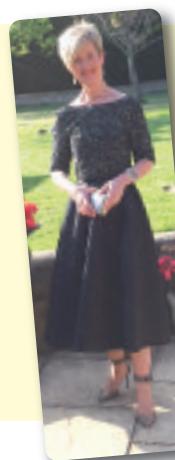
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Birthday

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY



Andrea Solomon

on 5th November

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Lots of love Ian, Luke, Joe, Max, Alba, Dave, Mum, Glen, Pauline & Cate xxx



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Iwan wrestles with success!

IWAN BAKER is celebrating his selection to represent Wales at the Commonwealth Senior Wrestling Championship in Singapore on November 5th.

Iwan will compete in the 61kg freestyle category alongside athletes fresh from the Rio Olympics from countries such as Canada, India, Nigeria and Australia.

At 18 years of age, Iwan is the youngest of the Welsh contingent. What is even more remarkable is that Iwan has had to fight back from not one but two serious injuries.

2016 started with Iwan in a sling after dislocating his elbow in training, he returned to competition winning the Slough Open in April only to fracture a collar bone whilst competing in the English Open in May.

This meant another period of rehab and intensive strength and conditioning in order to prove his fitness for selection for the Commonwealth senior tournament.

Gold at the recent Derbyshire Open secured Iwan's place and he has been training with the rest of the squad in Cardiff and London prior to their



Iwan Baker.

departure to Singapore.

Iwan, from Rhosneigr, who completed his A-Levels in June, will start a mathematics degree course at Cardiff University in 2017.

He is currently on a gap year working hard to improve his ranking and enhance his prospect of selection for the Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast in April 2018.

Iwan is a self-funded athlete competing against full time professionals. He would like to thank the Fontygary Inn for their support and would welcome any interest if anyone is able to offer support or sponsorship to Iwan or the Welsh team in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games.

In addition to his rehabilitation, Iwan has been working with his coach, Dylan, to prepare for the Commonwealth Games. He has been attending sessions with Dylan and Lex to work on his technique and strength.

Joe, on his debut, showed up well in attack and also got eight tackles to round off a great first game.

Another who tackled well was Rueben who is getting up to speed with the game, made a number of try-saving tackles and was awarded top tackler for his efforts.

Charlie and Max are starting to get into the swing of things along with Ben after his injury. Another who was not taking a backward step was Jack who tackled his heart out all game – no matter who came down his channel

PORTHCAWL RFC JUNIOR ROUND-UP

PORTHCAWL RFC under-10s played a very strong Valley Ravens side who showed us how to pass the ball wide into space, but also how to hit the rucks hard and win the turnovers.

The Ravens did these basics well today and it showed. On the positive, not once did any of our players give up and we showed true team spirit throughout the game to get straight back at the Ravens after each try.

When we passed the ball into wide channels we looked good with Mac, Scott, Piers and Oscar having some great runs into space but just getting tackled at the last moment. Too often we were isolated and the ball was turned over after the tackle as we were slow to support the runners.

Joe continued his good form with some great runs and was awarded top try scorer for his efforts in attack but he was run close by Oscar, Dewi, Joe and Samuel who had strong all-round games.

Joe, on his debut, showed up well in attack and also got eight tackles to round off a great first game.

Another who tackled well was Rueben who is getting up to speed with the game, made a number of try-saving tackles and was awarded top tackler for his efforts.

Charlie and Max are starting to get into the swing of things along with Ben after his injury. Another who was not taking a backward step was Jack who tackled his heart out all game – no matter who came down his channel



ABOVE: Porthcawl RFC were just pipped by Cilfynydd, 25-19, in the WRU Bowl and TRACEY WILLIAMS was on hand to catch the action.

no one was going to get past him and he was awarded clubman best effort.

The clubman making a difference award was shared between Dylan and Lex who continued to charge forward in defence and ran the ball forward in attack even when we were on the back foot. Although this defeat was hard to take, we are a better side than this but we need to be more streetwise in the rucks and believe more in our ability to move

the ball wide in attack and front up in defence.

ROB HOOPER
 The under-11s defeated Abergavenny Green Stars 55-40.

We started brightly with a couple of easy tries before Green Stars had worked out their positions.

The wizardry of Sam Taylor King and the aggressive running of Max Williams, scoring very impressive tries, were the major difference in the first half, and it was 30-20 at

the break.

The second half saw Green Stars running in two tries.

However we were soon back in front.

If the first half belonged to Sam and Max, the second was owned by the mercurial running of Osian Perkins and Jac Bevan.

A really entertaining game that naturally ebbed and flowed and was very worthy of playing.

TW

Go to the The GEM for the latest stories and breaking news... glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Penarth Hockey Club news round-up

PENARTH Hockey Club's two senior teams finally recorded victories on the same weekend, while the club's future was the real winner in both the first GoCreate league encounter between third and fourth XIs and the latest round of youth fixtures.

After comfortably defeating Devizes HC at home the previous week, Penarth's first XI made their shortest away trip of the year as they took on long-standing local rivals Whitchurch in Conference North.

Although not at full strength, the Bears took the early initiative and opened the scoring within 10 minutes via a penalty stroke. Once again, it was Ben Croxall who converted the opportunity, sending the goalkeeper the wrong way and adding to an impressive run of success from the spot that now stretches to four in five games.

Thereafter, however, the Whitchurch keeper proved difficult to beat, thwarting a particularly high number of shots as Penarth took control, but the home side remained dangerous, making a series of timely tackles in their defensive third and threatening on the counter-attack.

After earning a penalty corner from one such break, Whitchurch evened up the scoring with a well-placed drag-flick, but it wasn't long before Penarth re-established their lead, this time with David Joyce using a neat back-hand to squeeze the ball through a mellee and into an empty goal.

Whitchurch showed their determination once again to score a second of their own following a quick passing move, sending both teams into the half-time break even at 2-2, but Penarth effectively put the game to bed soon after the restart.

The Bears opened the second period particularly brightly and scored two goals inside the first seven minutes with Joyce doubling his tally by tapping home following good build-up play from Croxall and Chris Baker, and then completing a hat-trick goal by expertly controlling and despatching a powerful Laith El-Khatib cross.

Despite a few Whitchurch forays into the Penarth 'D', the Bears were still the more dangerous team and made it 5-2 as Baker once again turned provider, this time for the season's leading scorer, Andy Willemite.

A third goal for Whitchurch with 15 minutes to go added some late tension, but Penarth controlled the final portion of the game to run out 5-3 winners,

Second win of the season for Tynewydd FC

TYNEWYDD FC got their second win of the season, their first since the opening day, with a 3-1 win over Masons Moving Group.

Having been promoted to the top division for the first time, Tynewydd always knew they would find things tougher than last season, and combined with numerous injuries and some heavy defeats things have proved that way.

Most of the lads knew that mid-table would be deemed success and only being three points off that with a few games in hand shows things aren't maybe as bad as first thought.

Gareth Richards received the ball on the edge of the 18 yard box and glided infield, beating two players with ease before calmly curling the ball into the far corner to seal all three points for Tynewydd and guarantee himself man of the match honours.

Tynewydd started the second half with much more energy and were soon in the lead after a lofted ball in from George Pycroft was turned into the Mason's net by one of their center backs.

The lead wasn't to last

remaining unbeaten in the season with three wins and two draws as they return to second spot in their division.

PENARTH A 1, GWENT A 0

Penarth's second XI welcomed their Gwent counterparts to Stanwell School with just a point separating the two sides in De Cymru 1, and it was no surprise when the ensuing encounter proved to be a close-fought affair.

The Bears started quickly and saw several efforts either saved or sneak just wide before influential midfielder Rich Baker opened the scoring, giving the Gwent 'keeper no chance as he added a deft touch to a fantastic ball into the 'D' by Mark Thomas.

Conscious of the threat Gwent posed on the break, Penarth looked to build on the early goal and almost got an immediate second, with Steve Davies deflecting the ball inches wide with his first touch of the ball.

Baker offered a constant target and, seeing another shot saved on the line by a Gwent foot, thought he had earned his side a penalty stroke, only for play to be brought back for an earlier infringement.

There was no addition to the scoreline by the break and, despite Penarth evidently being the dominant side, they remained aware that a single-goal lead would always be vulnerable, so the team talk focused on staying tight in defence and looking to kill the game off with a quick strike.

The final period saw more of the same from Penarth, with the Bears dominating possession and working the ball upfield, but not finding the quality finish to beat the Gwent 'keeper. It was a pattern which continued for the rest of the game, with the home side threatening the Gwent goal numerous times but with no end product, giving the visitors the chance to remain in the game.

They could have grabbed a late equaliser from the only real attack to threaten the Penarth goal but, fortunately for the Vale side, Gwent's finishing matched their own and, when a few late counter-attacks also went begging, Penarth were able to leave with a hard-fought 1-0 win.

Much credit must go to the Penarth defence, not only for snuffing out all Gwent attacks, but also for getting forward and helping create the numerous chances spurned by the strikers, a problem that the side will hope is quickly overcome in their search for back-to-back promotions.

PENARTH C 2, PENARTH B 4

In the first of four scheduled De Cymru 3 meetings this season, Penarth C entertained their Penarth B colleagues as a precursor to the second XI's match with Gwent at Stanwell, and gave as good as they got before eventually going down to a 4-2 defeat.

Due to unavailability, both sides started the game with only 10 players, but the 'C-Siders' welcomed the return of their skipper Nick Pratt to help cover the absence of defensive lynchpin Roger Griffiths due to injury.

It was perhaps unsurprising therefore that the B

Barry sports centre 'legend' Lewis retires

A "LEGENDARY"
Barry character has finally stepped down after 36 years at Colcot Sports Centre.



Lewis Coffey, who retired last week, on the day of his 65th birthday, as sports centre supervisor, has been a familiar face to people using the facility since May 1980, when he helped organise a mammoth five-a-side operation and also oversaw an award-winning bodybuilding department.

"I got stuck into it, there was only me doing it, so I used to spend two or three hours a week sorting out all the admin. We had some good players, quite a few who went on to play for the likes of Barry Town and Taff's Well."

Lewis has been celebrating his retirement with family and friends and is now preparing for a well-earned rest. "I've really enjoyed my job; I won an award as the best club in Wales in 1986. The highlight was probably during the 1980s and 90s, but I'm looking forward to retirement," he added.

JC

side took an early lead, with Matt Birch converting following the breakdown of a penalty corner. It was testimony to the spirit of the C team that they refused to capitulate in the face of both the early setback and ensuing pressure, and they were rewarded by the arrival of Lewis Ingram as the return to a full complement enabled the adoption of a bold attacking policy with Ingram, Toby James and Jack Ritchie featuring prominently.

With the 'C-Siders' growing in confidence and debutant Richard Cousins and the combative Tom Griffiths coming more into the game, it was all the more disappointing when they conceded a second goal, this time to B team skipper Dave Watkins.

The game remained 2-0 at half-time, and the second period began with the senior side pressing hard. When Rob Harrison was illegally impeded in the 'D', Birch stepped up to confidently convert the resultant penalty stroke.

The game could have become one-sided, but, as the B side appeared to tire, the younger 'C-Siders' fought back more and more into the game, with Rhys Meddins amongst those growing in confidence.

The upturn in pressure eventually saw the fourth XI force their own penalty stroke when the otherwise solid B team goalkeeper Luke Williams inadvertently played the ball with the back of his stick, giving umpire Colin Crayford no option but to point to the spot. Skipper Pratt duly stepped up to give the keeper little chance as he recorded the first Penarth C goal in over 20 years.

At 3-1, the 'C-Siders' continued to press hard, and it took a superb team goal, starting deep in the left defence with Mark Robinson and finishing with Watkins' incisive pass for Birch to complete his hat-trick to put the result beyond doubt.

Even at 4-1, however, the C side continued to play positively and, following a driving run and shot from man-of-the-match Griffiths that brought a superb save from Williams, the ball fell to Ritchie to calmly control and finish for his first goal for the club to make the final score 4-2.

UNDER-11S WIN ON HOME DEBUT

Penarth fielded two under-11 teams for the first

time this season, making their home debut at Stanwell as they faced opposition from Bridgend, Gwent, Swansea and Whitchurch on Sunday.

The more experienced Penarth B team played well throughout the morning, running out 1-0 winners against both Bridgend and Whitchurch, thanks to goals from Harry Ritchie and Elliot VanSteen respectively before playing out a 1-1 draw with Swansea, with Ritchie once again on target, and going goalless in a tie with Gwent A.

Penarth A battled well against the more experienced Whitchurch and Gwent A sides where, despite efforts on goal, both games ended scoreless. The game against Gwent B was more evenly-matched, ending in a 1-1 draw thanks to a goal from Owain Mottram, but the team tired in their later matches, losing 2-0 to Bridgend and 6-0 to Swansea.

The final match of the morning saw the two Penarth sides pitched against each other, with the B team winning by two goals to nil thanks to strikes from Louis Carver and Tommy Bryant, but drawing praise from chairman Nick Pratt, who noted that the efforts of both teams capped off an excellent weekend of hockey for the Penarth club as a whole.

All four Penarth sides will be in action this weekend, with the first XI returning to fortress Stanwell to take on Chippenham HC (1.45pm start).

After playing three of the top four sides in their division, the seconds should, on paper, have an easier run of games ahead, starting with a quest for maximum points at Cardiff & Met E late on Saturday afternoon. Meanwhile, the third XI host Swansea City at Stanwell (noon start) as the young C side faces a daunting early morning trip to league leaders Swansea University.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

Town put seven past Haverfordwest to reach MG Cup semi-finals

BARRY Town United became the only team from outside the Welsh Premier League to reach the semi-finals of this season's Nathaniel MG Cup, with a magnificent 7-1 win over Haverfordwest County.

Town opened the scoring through Drew Fahiyia, who followed up his brace against Port Talbot Town with a fine 12th minute volley, after receiving a superlative assist from teammate Jordan Cotterill.

However, the Pembrokeshire-based visitors would restore parity on the half-hour mark, with Kieran O'Brien capitalising on some Barry defensive woes to claim what was ultimately a soft equaliser.

Moments before half-time, the men in yellow were awarded what proved to be a pivotal free-kick, following a foul on Tyrell Webbe towards the left-hand flank.

Whipping across an inquisitive left-footed ball, full-back Lee Baldock set up Luke Cooper for a pinpoint, close-range header, after Cooper snuck between two Haverfordwest defenders.

Cooper's goal handed the Town a valuable 2-1 lead, though few could have expected the 45 minutes to follow, as Barry put together their finest attacking spell of the entire season to date.

Haverfordwest had started the second period on the front foot, knocking on the door of Barry goalkeeper Mike Lewis and keeping their fellow Welsh League Division One side under pressure.

The battling Bluebirds though had not accounted for the form of forward Fahiyia, who quickly re-emerged to score his second (and Barry's third) from close range in the 52nd minute.

3-1 ahead and with a semi-final berth in their sights, the Town were on the up and Cooper looked to have made it four, only to see his header ruled out, to the bemusement of the Jenner Park crowd.

However, Haverfordwest's respite would be merely temporary and the visitors soon fell victim to a spellbinding hat-trick from one of their former players, an enthused and inspired James Dixon.

Continuing his headlining-hitting exploits that lit up Barry's Welsh Cup run last season, Dixon propelled his Town team into an emphatic 4-1 advantage, lifting the ball over an ill-positioned County goalkeeper from distance with 57 minutes on the clock.

Seven minutes later, Dixon struck once more to

put the tie beyond his former club, the striker finishing off an impressive team move after strong work from teammates Cotterill and Webbe.

With the Tuesday crowd of approximately 300 spurring the home side on, Dixon then completed his hat-trick in the 84th minute, before Cotterill put the cherry on top with Barry's magnificent seventh.

In the closing stages, Gavin Chesterfield handed a competitive debut to development squad player Mikey George; the youngster arrived in place of Cotterill and almost capped his senior team bow with an audacious eighth from long-range.

As it was though, the score remained 7-1, Barry's biggest victory in the competition since December 1997 and their largest at Jenner Park since entering the tournament for the first time in 1994-95.

The semi-final stage now pairs Barry with Carmarthen Town, whose manager, the former Wales international Mark Aizlewood, was in attendance at Jenner Park for the Haverfordwest fixture.

The Old Gold edged past Newtown in extra-time to secure their semi-final berth, while the other tie sees the Welsh Premier League's top sides, The New Saints and Connah's Quay, pitted head-to-head.

This Saturday, meanwhile, sees the return of Welsh Cup football, as the Town welcome fellow Welsh League Division One outfit Penybont to Jenner Park in Wales' flagship, 139-year old competition.

Kick-off is at 2pm, with fans hoping for a return to the form that saw off Haverfordwest, after seeing a changed Town side beaten 1-0 by a spirited Llanwit Major in the Welsh League Cup last weekend.

Details on the Barry/Carmarthen fixture meanwhile were set to be confirmed at press time, with supporters encouraged to check www.barrytownunited.co.uk regularly for date and location information.

AC

Barry RFC news

THE winning Lottery numbers for last Saturday were 04, 06, 14 and 20, which could not be matched, so this week's jackpot will be £2,900.

There are still a few tickets available for Wales' autumn international matches. Anyone interested should contact Colin Ham on 01446 405726.

AJ



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ROAD SAFETY WALES WARNS OF THE DANGERS OF FATIGUE

A WELSH road safety body is urging drivers to be aware of the dangers associated with tiredness.

Fatigue is estimated to be a contributory factor in up to 20 per cent of road collisions. These types of crashes tend to be high speed impacts resulting in death or serious injury, because a driver who has fallen asleep cannot brake or swerve.

Sleepiness reduces reaction time, a critical element of safe driving, and also reduces alertness and concentration.

The ability to perform attention-based activities is impaired and decision making can be badly affected, as information cannot be quickly processed by a person who is tired.

The chair of Road Safety Wales, Susan Storch, said: "Drivers and riders will be aware that they are feeling sleepy, and must make a conscious decision to stop for a rest."

"Ignoring or underestimating the risks of continuing a journey when tired is naive and irresponsible."

Crashes caused by tired drivers are most likely to happen:

- On long journeys, on monotonous roads, such as motorways.
- Between 2am and 6am.
- Between 2pm and 4pm (especially after eating, or taking even one alcoholic drink).

Some drivers may be unwilling to seek help because they fear losing their driving licence. However, there are established treatments

for sleep apnoea which measures that help to reduce sleepiness, for a temporary period.

Drivers who notice a pattern of feeling sleepy behind the wheel may have an undiagnosed sleep disorder, such as sleep apnoea.

Some drivers may be unwilling to seek help because they fear losing their driving licence. However, there are established treatments

for sleep apnoea which allow drivers to retain their licence, and their livelihood.

Anyone suspecting that they have a sleep disorder is strongly advised to contact their GP.

Susan Storch added: "Plan your journey to include regular rest breaks (at least 15 minutes every two hours) and if necessary plan an overnight stop."

"Holiday makers, in particular, should follow our advice to never drive or ride when feeling sleepy, or if they have had little sleep in the previous 24 hours."

For further information on road safety initiatives throughout Wales, visit www.roadsafetywales.org.uk

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How new roads and new cars will change the face of motoring

by PRESS ASSOCIATION MOTORING CORRESPONDENTS

BRITISH roads should be modified to make them less dangerous for older drivers, a road safety organisation has suggested.

A Government-backed report by the Older Drivers Task Force, managed by the Road Safety Foundation, has highlighted that the UK does not take the needs of older drivers into account when developing its road design standards.

It argues that by taking these considerations into account, all road users will benefit.

John Plowman, chairman of the Older Drivers Task Force, said:

"Our road transport system, our roads and vehicles, have been designed for use by fit, middle-aged motorists in the middle of the spectrum of road users.

"Looked at through an older driver's prism, the current road system doesn't do them many favours."

One aspect of British roadways that drew particular attention were T-junctions and intersections.

According to the report, of all car crashes that occurred in the UK between 2012-14, 55-65 per cent took place at or within 20 metres of the junction, a figure that didn't change much with driver age.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



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Technology marks sea change

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

However, for fatal crashes in the same scenario, the figure was 30 per cent for all ages up to 65, increasing to 50 per cent for those aged over 75; a significant problem for elderly drivers.

The report points out that the majority of crashes that occur at intersections take place at T-junctions where no traffic control devices are present, or where there is only a give way sign.

To solve this problem, the report suggests studying the effectiveness of having mini-roundabouts installed at busy T-junctions with little or no change to the kerb lines.

Other suggestions to make UK roads more accommodating for elderly drivers include installing reflective backplates on road signs and traffic signals, larger lettering on direction signs, and regular cleaning of road signs.

'EV' revolution
Sales of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles are about to take off, and the AA predicts that more than 500,000 of these alternatively-powered cars will be on UK roads by 2020.

The AA believes that dispelling the myths surrounding the costs associated with running these sorts of vehicles could help increase these estimates significantly.

To aid this process, the AA has partnered with Chargemaster, the UK's leading electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure provider, to provide support and access to a growing network of UK charge points.

AA president, Edmund King, said: "We think that the EV revolution is about to take off and we want to help consumers understand the benefits of low-cost, low-emission driving and to show them it is accessible and affordable."

"Per mile driven, an EV is five times

cheaper than the average petrol car and carries no vehicle excise duty."

The partnership will provide EV owners with a range of

benefits including home charging units, and access to thousands of charging points at preferential rates.

The organisations

will also begin expanding the number of domestic and public charging points around the country.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

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GEARING UP FOR WINTER



Motoring by ultracharger

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

Chargemaster is currently installing 40 of its latest 50kW ultrachargers in London - which are capable of charging an EV in less than 30 minutes - quadrupling the number of charge points within the M25 in the process.

AA research reveals there are a number of barriers and misconceptions surrounding EV ownership, such as their high purchase price, durability of battery and the availability of public charge points.

David Martell, Chargemaster CEO, points out that availability of charging points at a destination is a significant barrier to EV ownership, a concern that worried 81 per cent of AA respondents.

"We want to change that perception. This new relationship with the AA will see hundreds more AA branded charging points installed," he said.

"They'll go in at AA-rated hotels and other accessible public places such as supermarkets, public car parks and town centres, while we will

be embarking on a public awareness campaign to show that charging a vehicle at home is neither difficult or costly."

Deaths resulting from road accidents in the UK fell by 2 per cent in 2015, compared to figures from the previous year.

According to statistics released by the Department for Transport, 1,732 people were killed on UK roads last year, the second lowest figure on record.

Despite this drop, road safety charities are calling for more to be done amid fears of stagnation.

Kevin Clinton, head of road safety at RoSPA, said: "We are pleased to see that fatalities and injuries have dropped since 2014, but the longer-term trend seems to be showing stagnation, so they are not falling as steadily as they were before 2011."

"This means that we need to do more to get back on a long-term downward trend - these accidents don't have to happen."

Lucy Amos, research advisor for Brake, said: "Although slight reductions have been achieved, we must remember that no road death is acceptable and we should not compromise when it comes to people's lives and the safety of our roads."

While the total number of road fatalities has dropped, there has been an 8 per cent rise in the number of motorcyclists killed, and a 2 per cent increase in the number of child deaths.

To ensure that road deaths continue to drop, RoSPA has put forward a road safety strategy with a number of suggestions.

These include measures such as reducing the drink-drive limit in England and Wales to 50 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, and ensuring there are enough road police officers to enforce road safety laws.

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Wales out to break the bleak cycle of so near and yet so far against wounded Wallabies...

WHEN Wales line up against Australia in Cardiff at 2.30pm on Saturday, for the 40th time since their opening clash in 1908, no-one, least of all acting head coach Robert Howley, can be under any illusions about its extra significance – or the scale of the challenge that lies ahead in the first of four autumn tests against the southern hemisphere at an expectant Principality Stadium.

After all, the sobering record speaks for itself: of the 39 matches played so far, the men from Oz have won 28, Wales 10, with one game drawn – 29-29 in Cardiff 2006 (the second highest drawn score in rugby history we are told).

Over the 108 years, the Australians have amassed a total of 912 points to Wales' 596 (at an average of around 23.8 points per match), and will no doubt be confident of reasserting their well-established dominance over the men in red with a 12th consecutive win this weekend.

However, bare statistics can also be misleading and it is far from doom and gloom. The gap between the two nations has been steadily narrowing – with many of the more recent, tightly-contested encounters going right down to the wire, a thimbleful of points separating the teams near the end – but then Welsh victory whisked away in an instant by a quick-fire Aussie riposte, literally in the dying seconds of the match.

It is an all too familiar, deeply frustrating pattern that has cruelly denied Wales victory at the death on numerous notable occasions against southern hemisphere sides – and one which their baffled head coach, Kiwi Warren Gatland, now on secondment to the British and Irish Lions, has attempted to address, so far with little success, since

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

taking over in 2008. A calculated policy of arduous summer tours and tough autumn tests, has regularly exposed his young charges to the challenge posed by southern hemisphere giants, in the hope that something of the latter's clinical ruthlessness and iron will to win will ultimately rub off – and secure prized scalps that could resolve notorious inconsistency, turbo-charge team morale, and finally propel Wales out of mid-table into the higher echelons of world rugby.

It is, of course, a high-risk, learning-curve strategy, for while regular exposure to international rugby's 'big guns' may ultimately achieve the desired winning mentality to compete at a higher level for the whole of 80 minutes, it risks exacerbating the demoralising effect on young players of repeated, morale-sapping failure.

It also makes for grim reading in the record books that would not be tolerated in the pitiless, results-driven world of the round ball, where coaches form a constant procession through the revolving door marked exit, P45s in hand.

It now falls to the former All Black's longstanding assistant coach, Howley, to attempt to find a solution to the team's apparent inability to close out games that are balanced on a knife edge and victory almost within their grasp – none more so than against Australia (a team he is well aware has suffered a three-test whitewash by arch rivals England and recent humiliation at the hands of the All Blacks!).

With Gatland temporarily out of the picture, he now has an opportunity to put this right – set his own stamp on a

Robert Howley:
He now
has a
golden
chance
to make
his
mark.



talented Wales squad, silence his critics, and prove his legitimate claim to the succession when Gatland departs these shores after the next Rugby World Cup.

Thus there can be little doubt that Howley, perhaps more than anyone else in the Welsh camp, will come under particular pressure in the coming weeks and months: how the team perform – mentally as much as physically under his charge – could hold the key to his ambitions.

Results against Australia, then Argentina, Japan and South Africa (not forgetting the Six Nations, of course) could decide if he has been passed the cup that cheers or a poisoned chalice.

Hence he (and his fellow coaches) will be counting on Saturday's line-up to begin to ensure that it is the former, rather than the latter, by finally laying that Wallaby jinx to rest! The talent is there. It can be done.

Semi-final spot for the Dinas ladies!

DINAS POWYS Ladies move into the South Wales Ladies Cup semi-final with an impressive display of attacking football.

After falling behind within a minute the Dinas girls never took a backward step for the rest of the match.

Gemma Crowley ghosted in at the back post on 12 minutes to power a header home to bring the tie level.

Laura Murray thought she had forced the lead when her shot cannoned back off the bar.

Laura Lewis then had a good chance to take the lead but struck the post from a tight angle.

Murray then latched onto a through ball from skipper Leanne Pattemore but the experienced striker still had work to do and slotted it home.

Gemma Crowley started to find her range of pass and looked

to feed the forwards. Shaz Ahmad marshalled her Caerphilly defenders very well as the ex-Dinas fullback had an impressive game.

In the second half Dinas introduced fresh legs in Samantha Saunders and the evergreen Nao Yamanda.

The game started to open up and the game was flowing end to end with Caerphilly forcing the home side back.

Rachel Beare and Vicki Elision were have inspired games at fullback winning countless one-on-one battles.

Tuck and Pattemore, both big players for Dinas, shut the shop up as Caerphilly struggled to get up behind.

With 15 minutes remaining Naomi Wilson pulled off a match-winning save to keep the home side in front.

Rachel Beare (always a threat

in the air) thought she had scored when she met a well rehearsed set piece but the visitors' keeper pulled off a great save.

Dinas tried to turn the screw and Murray then again thought she had scored as her free kick bounced off the crossbar.

Taylor Page, Nao, Saunders and Chapman linked up and moved the ball with real purpose in the final third and the third goal was always on the cards.

Jo Jones, having an outstanding game, found Murray with a delightful chip and the Dinas striker showed her worth, lobbing the keeper from 20 yards.

Dinas saw the game out and were deserved winners against higher league opposition.

Lady of the match was Joey Jones, who has been in great form all season.

LS

THREE DEFEATS FOR BARRY CHESS CLUB

ANOTHER week, another three matches for the Barry Chess Club - and another three defeats for the Barry Chess Club. We are nothing if not consistent.

The Bosons in division 1 fell to a 4-1 defeat to the Cardiff Castles. Matthew Davies and Steve Cunliffe earned draws for Barry.

For Steve it is his fourth draw in five matches to continue his personal unbeaten start to the season.

The Bosons plummet to ninth in the table. However their three defeats have been to the top three teams.

There remains a good chance of picking up sufficient points in the next four games to put

us safely into mid-table at the halfway stage of the season but the recovery must start here.

In division 3 the Quarks lost 3-2 to the Caerphilly Knights. Sam White picked up his first win of the season and was supported by draws from Peter Watkins and Tom Cooke.

This defeat moves us up temporarily to seventh place in the league table. We are, however, only one point above the Nelson Griffins who have one match in hand.

We have lost all five of our matches so far and like the Bosons need to show an immediate improvement if relegation is to be avoided.

Our most successful team so far this season is

the Gambits in division 4.

This week they succumbed to a 3-2 defeat to the North Cardiff Ravens. In this case we were outragued on every board.

A good win for John Stephenson and draws for Ray Denyer and Dave Mahoney gave us two points we didn't expect.

This is a very competitive division with only one point separating five teams who have all played the same number of matches.

While we have dropped out of the promotion spots and currently lie in fourth place on tie break, we are only 0.5 points behind the North Cardiff Panthers in second

place. The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

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